THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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CBSE STARTS WORK TO HOLD BOARD EXAMS TWICE A YEAR FROM 2025

The Ministry of Education has asked the CBSE to work out logistics for conducting board exams twice a year from the 2025-26 academic session

THERE WILL BE NO SEMESTER SYSTEM

However, no semester system will be introduced, officials said. The education ministry and the CBSE will hold consultations with school principals next month for conducting board exams twice a year. CBSE will have to restructure its academic calendar to accommodate another set of board exams without impacting the undergraduate admission schedule

MOVE TO HELP STUDENTS PERFORM WELL

- The ministry's initial plan was to introduce biannual board exams from the 2024-25 academic session; it has now been pushed back by a year
- Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan had said earlier that appearing for board exams twice a year won't be mandatory for students
- Students can appear for subjects they are ready and retain the best score

NCF

THE REFORM IS BASED ON THE SUGGESTIONS IN THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

EVMs get vote of confidence from Supreme Court

Petitions seeking 100% cross-verification of votes rejected; bench issues two directives

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY
@New Delhi

THE Supreme Court on Friday rejected all petitions seeking 100% cross-verification of votes cast on electronic voting machines (EVMs) with a Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT), saying suspicions of tampering were unfounded. It also turned down pleas to revive paper ballots.

A bench of justices Sanjiv Khanna and Dipankar Dutta delivered two separate but concurring verdicts.

"While maintaining a balanced perspective is crucial in evaluating systems or institutions, blindly distrusting any aspect of the system can breed unwarranted scepticism," the court said, adding democracy is all about striving to build harmony and trust between all institutions.

Justice Khanna in his verdict issued two directions. One, sealing and storing the Symbol Loading Unit after completing the symbol loading process for at least 45 days. And two, checking the burnt memory in the microcontrollers of 5% of EVMs for tampering per assembly constituency by a team of engineers after the results are out.

Return to ballot paper unsound

"We must reject as foible and unsound the submission to return to the ballot paper system. The weakness of the ballot paper system is well known and documented," the bench said in its verdict

An EVM comprises three units — ballot unit, control unit and the VVPAT. All three are embedded with microcontrollers, which have a burnt memory from the manufacturer.

The request to verify the microcontrollers can be made by candidates who stand second or third in the elections. A written request has to be made within seven days after the results are announced. Those who make the request would foot the verification bill. But if an EVM is found tampered, the money would be refunded.

Besides, the bench suggested that the ECI examine the possibility of machine counting of the VVPAT paper slips and see if it could add a bar code for each party along with the party symbol in the slips.

Justice Dipankar Datta in his separate judgment said there seems to be a concerted effort to discredit, diminish and weaken India's progress on every possible frontier and any such attempt has to be "nipped in the bud". He added that EVMs have stood the test of time and the increased voting percentage was sufficient reason to hold that the voters have reposed faith in the current system.

From left: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and his son Yathindra cast their vote at Siddaramanahundi in Mysuru on Friday. JDS supremo HD Deve Gowda exercises his franchise at Paduvalahippe of Hassan district. An elderly woman waits for her turn at a booth in Bantwal taluk of Dakshina Kannada constituency | EXPRESS

Woman suffers cardiac arrest, doc saves her

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

A woman in her fifties, who suffered a cardiac arrest in a polling booth in the city on Friday, was saved by a doctor who was waiting in a queue there to exercise his franchise.

The incident occurred at the government school in Jumbo Savari Dinne, JP Nagar, 8th Phase.

The woman collapsed in front of **Dr Ganesh Srinivasa Prasad** in the booth (No 210) around 9am. Dr Prasad immediately resorted to Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and saved her life.

Dr Prasad, 36, hails from Anantapur in Andhra Pradesh. He works as a nephrologist at Narayana Health Centre in Bommasandra.

The woman collapsed while taking water from a can at the booth. "I checked her pulse but did not feel it. She was gasping for breath and I immediately resorted to CPR till her condition improved," Dr Prasad told *TNIE*. **P2**

Polling peaceful, 14 constituencies in K'taka record 69.23% turnout

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

FOURTEEN constituencies in south and coastal Karnataka went to polls on Friday in Phase-2 of 2024 Lok Sabha elections, recording a polling percentage of 69.23 at 9.45 pm — much better than 68.80 recorded in 28 constituencies in 2019. Phase-3 polling for the rest of the 14 constituencies will be held on May 7.

In 2019, the same 14 constituencies, which went to polls on Friday, recorded an average poll percentage of 68.96. It was 67.73 in 2014.

Karnataka polling percentage, so far, is better than the national average of 67.40.

Chief Electoral Officer of Karnataka Manoj Kumar Meena told *TNIE* that the rise in voter turnout is because of the increased awareness among people.

The highest voting percentage of 81.48 was recorded in Mandya, followed by Kolar 78.07. The lowest percentage of 52.81 was recorded in Bangalore Central, while the largest constituency in Karnataka, Bangalore North, recorded 54.42.

The four constituencies in Bengaluru — Bangalore Rural, Bangalore North, Bangalore South and Bangalore Central — recorded an average polling percentage of 56.91 — marginally poorer than the poll percentage of 56.94 recorded in 2019. But the figure is likely to marginally improve as the final percentage is taken into account. **P4**

Furniture at a poll booth damaged by villagers in Indiganatha village in Hanur taluk of Chamarajanagar district on Friday | EXPRESS

Villagers vandalise booth near MM Hills, burn EVMs

Mysuru: Tension prevailed at Indiganatha village in Male Mahadeshwara Wildlife Sanctuary on Friday when people set fire to electronic voting machines (EVMs) in a polling booth there and attacked election officials for "forcing" them to exercise their franchise. The agitators had decided to boycott polling in protest against lack of basic amenities | **P4**

Gandhi buzz in Amethi, Rae Bareli

NAMITA BAJPAI @Lucknow

WITH the second phase of the general elections done and dusted — where Rahul Gandhi was a candidate in Wayanad — all eyes are on Saturday's Congress Election Committee meeting, which is expected to take its call on Rae Bareli and Amethi, the two bastions of Gandhi family in Uttar Pradesh.

The meeting comes amid intense speculation on the party fielding Rahul from Amethi and party leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra from Rae Bareli.

Highly-placed sources said both Priyanka and Rahul are likely to visit Ayodhya for a darshan of Ram Lalla before heading to Amethi and Rae Bareli. The buzz around Rahul's candidature from Amethi picked up momentum from the fact that besides the renovation of the Congress office there, the guest house on the premises was also white washed.

The process of filing nomination papers for both Amethi and Rae Bareli began on Friday and will continue till May 3. Sources claim that after the formal announcement of his candidature, Rahul may file his nomination papers from Amethi on May 1 or 2. However, there is no official word on it.

A senior Congress leader hinted at the possibility of back-to-back filing of nomination papers by both Rahul and Priyanka during the narrow window between May 1 and May 3.

However, the possibility of Robert Vadra, Priyanka's husband, getting the Amethi ticket cannot be ruled out. Vadra had earlier gone vocal, claiming that the people of Amethi wanted him to represent them.

Over 65% turnout in 2nd phase polls

Young voters after casting their votes at Purameri, Kozhikode | E GOKUL

BRISK POLLING IN TRIPURA, LOW TURNOUT IN U.P.

STATE	VOTING				
Tripura	79.46%	J&K	71.21%	Maharasthra	58.57%
Manipur	77.32%	Assam	71.11%	Madhya Pradesh	55.77%
Chhattisgarh	73.05%	Kerala	70.35%	Bihar	55.08%
West Bengal	71.84%	Karnataka	69.23%	Uttar Pradesh	54.83%
		Rajasthan	62.46%		(Source: ECI)

PREETHA NAIR @New Delhi

IN a relatively improved showing, the second phase of the Lok Sabha elections recorded over 65% voter turnout covering 88 seats across 13 states. The highest voting percentage was recorded in Tripura at 78.53% while the lowest was in Uttar Pradesh at 54.85%.

Kerala, Karnataka and Rajasthan accounted for more than half the seats. Elections to 14 seats were held in Karnataka, 13 seats in Rajasthan, 8 seats each in Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh, 6 seats in Madhya Pradesh, 5 seats each in Assam and Bihar, 3 seats each in Chhattisgarh and West Bengal, and 1 seat each in Manipur, Tripura and Jammu and Kashmir.

All eyes are on the high stakes battle in Kerala, where the BJP has been aggressively working to open its account. The contests in Wayanad, where former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi is contesting, and Thiruvananthapuram where Union minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar is pitted against sitting MP Shashi Tharoor, are keenly watched.

Other top guns in the fray include actor-turned-politician Arun Govil in Meerut, Karnataka deputy CM D K Shivakumar's brother D K Suresh in Bangalore Rural, and former Karnataka chief minister H D Kumaraswamy (JDS) in Mandya. BJP's Hema Malini, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla and Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat are seeking a hattrick of wins from Uttar Pradesh's Mathura, Rajasthan's Kota and Jodhpur, respectively.

With the conclusion of the second phase, voting has been completed in 14 states/UTs.

EXPRESS READ

Small arms, foreign-made pistols seized in Sandeshkhali

New Delhi: New Delhi: A day after registering an FIR against five accused in a case linked to the land grab and assault on women, the CBI on Friday conducted raids at multiple locations in Sandeshkhali and recovered foreign-made weapons and a large cache of ammunition. Friday's raids were conducted as part of probe into the attack on an Enforcement Directorate team by a mob.

Indian-origin student arrested in US over pro-Palestine protests

New York: An Indian-origin female student studying at the prestigious Princeton University is among two students who have been arrested and barred from the campus for staging pro-Palestine protests on the campus. Achinthya Sivalingan, born in Coimbatore and raised in Columbus, now faces disciplinary action, the varsity said.

Modi factor very much in play in 'mini-India' Malkajgiri

SWETHAVIMALA M & MANDA RAVINDER REDDY @ Hyderabad

THE three-cornered contest in Telangana's Malkajgiri constituency, which elected the state's current Chief Minister Revanth Reddy as a Congress MP in 2019, may be a foregone conclusion.

SHOWTIME FOR GLADIATORS

The Congress has fielded a recent entrant from BRS, Patnam Suneetha Mahender Reddy, while the BRS candidate is a turncoat from the Congress, Ragidi Laxma Reddy. The BJP candidate Eatala Rajender was a minister in the KCR government and switched over from the BRS in 2021.

Who is the front-runner? A 45-year-old businessman from Kukatpally, Mahesh, who identified himself as a member of the Congress, did not hesitate for a moment when asked who he would support this time. "It's Modi at the Centre. I believe in Modi and would vote for the BJP," he said.

Mahesh is not alone in rooting for the saffron party. Several voters from Malkajgiri constituency said they would vote for the BJP.

Dhanalakota Shravan Kumar, a traditional artiste from Quthbullapur — one of the seven suburban Assembly segments making up the Malkajgiri LS seat — reasoned: "If I vote for Congress, my vote would be wasted as the party might not come to power at the Centre. As for the BRS, they have lost power in Telangana." Most of Shravan's neighbours shared similar views.

Though all seven segments of the Malkajgiri constituency voted for the BRS in the November 2023 Assembly elections, it appears that the saffron party has an edge in the LS polls. Eatala Rajender claims people are with PM Narendra Modi, whose 1.3-km roadshow in Malkajgiri on March 15 saw a massive response. Rajendar, who quit BRS after an acrimonious fallout with former CM K Chandrasekhar Rao, told this paper recently during Hyderabad Dialogues that the party can win 12 out of the 17 seats in the state, including Malkajgiri.

ILLUSTRATION: MANDAR PARDIKAR

The constituency, established in 2009 following delimitation, has 37.47 lakh voters, with over 90% belonging to urban and suburban areas. With a sizable population of migrant settlers from other states including Tamil Nadu due to the presence of Central government institutions, Malkajgiri is deemed 'Mini India'.

Since the seat came into being in 2009, the Congress has won twice and the TDP once — in 2014, when it was in alliance with the BJP. **P5**

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU

ALMANAC TODAY
Saturday : 27.04.2024 • Year: Krodhi • Ayana: Uttharayana • Ritu: Vasantha • Masa: Chaitra • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Thrutheeya 6.26 am • Nakshatra: Jyeshta 2.33 am • Moon in Dhanur Rashi • Rahukaala: 09:00 am to 10:30 am • Gulikakala: 06:00 am to 07:30 am • Yamaganda: 01:49 pm to 03:26 pm

WEATHER
MIN 21°C | MAX 38°C
FORECAST
Partly cloudy

Sunrise 06.00 am
Sunset 06.34 pm
Moonrise 09.40 pm
Moonset 08.15 am

5 yrs later, city's voting report card still dismal

While parliamentary constituencies in rural areas faring well in terms of voter turnout, with segments like Mandya and Kolar witnessing around 80 percent polling percentage, the citizens of Bengaluru have yet again proved that they are laggards. While there is a slight improvement in the voter turnout in Bangalore Central seat, the poll percentage in Bangalore South and Bangalore North remains the same as compared to 2019. In Bangalore Rural constituency, which also has urban voters, the numbers have increased by just two percent.

BANGALORE CENTRAL

A disbaled man comes to vote

10% JUMP IN VOTING PERCENTAGE, BUT STILL NOT IMPRESSIVE

AKNISREE KARTHIK @Bengaluru

AMONG the four Lok Sabha constituencies in Bengaluru, Bangalore Central has yet again put up the worst voter turnout, by recording only 52.81 per cent. Though the numbers have improved by 10 per cent, compared to the 2019 polls, the segment continues to bear the 'poor turnout' title. In the 2014 election, the total poll percentage was 55.64 per cent, and plummeted to 42.43 per cent in 2019.

While some blame the Election Commission for having an inflated voters' list with people who are dead and who have moved to different areas, others blamed the attitude of people for not stepping out to exercise their democratic right once in five years. Cutting across religions and languages, people headed to polling booths in Bangalore Central at 7am and set the EVMs buzzing. From the injured on wheelchairs to auto drivers and street vendors casting their votes as early birds, and heading out to work, people across the spectrum exercised their democratic rights.

Shalom Sanjay, a first-time voter who cast her vote at Morarji Desai School, which is nearing 100 years and has witnessed almost all the elections since Independence, said, "I voted for a leader who will build the nation." On the other hand, 57-year-old Nasreen's broken leg didn't stop her from casting her vote. She arranged for an auto to the polling booth. On her arrival, police and polling staff gave her a wheelchair to go in and cast her vote.

There were many auto drivers, mechanics, street vendors and labourers who voted and then went to ply their trades as usual. There were also theme-based booths, like Yakshagana kiosks, in this constituency.

TOTAL NO. OF VOTES
24,33,751

VOTER TURNOUT

FILM PERSONALITIES QUEUE UP TO VOTE

Right from film personalities to cricketers to businessmen, many lined up to get their fingers inked. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman cast her vote in Jayanagar in Bengaluru South. Despite poor health, Infosys founder Narayana Murthy voted at BES College in Jayanagar, along with wife Sudha Murty. Actor Prakash Raj, who contested as an independent candidate from Bangalore Central in 2019, was among the early voters. Cricketers Rahul Dravid and Anil Kumble also reached the polling booths. The first family of the Kannada film industry -- Shivarajkumar, Raghavendra Rajkumar, Ashwini Puneeth Rajkumar, Yuva Rajkumar and Vinay Rajkumar -- also cast their votes. Senior actors V Ravichandran, Ramesh Aravind and Upendra voted, while leading actor Darshan voted with wife Vijayalakshmi, Kiccha Sudeep with daughter Saanvi, and Yash went to vote with his wife.

GIG WORKER VOTES, HEADS FOR WORK

"A specially challenged gig worker, Hireswamy, was among the early birds who cast his vote on Friday. The 28-year-old said he voted in the first hour and then headed to work"

BANGALORE SOUTH

NR Narayana Murthy with wife Sudha Murty

SPIRIT OF DEMOCRACY ON SHOW DESPITE HEAT, LONG QUEUES

PURAN CHOUDHARY @Bengaluru

DESPITE a heatwave warning and a long weekend ahead, citizens from the Bengaluru South Constituency were committed to casting their votes.

Many started their day as early as 7 am to tick off voting from their lists and get on with other daily chores. With the city recording a temperature of 37 degrees Celsius, the makeshift tents outside government schools were of little relief and fell short at different locations. Water dispensers were also running dry within minutes, calling for constant refilling while voters waited for over an hour to vote. Despite being fatigued by the weather, determined many came out with their children to inspire them to become responsible citizens in the future.

Some were also seen carrying bottles of water and juice cans bought at nearby stores to beat the heat while standing in long queues. "It's so hot, but what can we do? We had to come out and vote. It is very crucial for every citizen," said Reshma in one of the booths in Govindaraja Nagar.

A young software engineer from Chickpet, Supreet K, said, "The queue is long, but I don't mind waiting. My key issues for this election are the infrastructure, financial state of the country and the deteriorating law and order situation in India."

Senior citizens and disabled individuals too came out in large numbers, some in wheelchairs, while many chose to make their way on their feet. Some ramps were at a height, making it difficult to push wheelchairs. At Siddaganga Public School in Vijayapura, five booths were at a single location. But the narrow entrance left many stuck. Several citizens were also seen walking sideways to get into the school building.

TOTAL NO. OF VOTES
23,41,759

VOTER TURNOUT

PAVING THE WAY FOR CHILDREN

A father of two children brought them to the polling booth in Govindaraja Nagar early in the morning. The two held their father's hand and waited patiently to see what is voting and how it works. "They were more excited than me to come and vote. This is a good exposure for them and will help the next generation of our country become responsible citizens," he added.

INKING THE TOE

Para swimmer Vishwas KS exercised his franchise at Govindaraja Nagar in Bengaluru South. The athlete was inked on the second toe of his left foot.

MESSAGE OF UNITY

"Communalism and hatred between two communities -- Hindus and Muslims -- should end now. There should be peace. At the end of it all, we are all one. Aren't we?" said Ishrat Khan, after casting her vote in a government school in Bapuji Nagar."

BANGALORE NORTH

Despite having met with an accident, a man comes to vote

NO BIG STRIDES: VOTER APATHY, HEATWAVE KEEP NUMBERS LOW

MOHAMMED YACOOB @Bengaluru

DESPITE efforts of the election commission and Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to increase voting percentage this general election, the numbers did not make strides in Bengaluru North parliamentary constituency, which has the highest number of voters in Karnataka.

While many voters braved the heat, some others did not even bother to come out and vote. Segments of voters in slums and apartment pockets opined that voting is a waste of time as once the election is over, elected candidates would never bother to come and meet the voters and ask about their welfare.

Muneer Khan, 77, who brought his 70-year-old wife on a scooter, to a polling station in HAL ward, said it is appalling to see voters not keen on exercising their right. Mufeeda Begum, another senior citizen, after casting her vote, said she has now the right to question her MP. Aishwarya, a young voter, stated that people can expect change only if they come out and vote. Syed Raheem, a social worker who arranged free auto to pick up and drop voters said, "The scorching heat forced many voters to stay at home and avoid voting. We have arranged over two dozen autos to ferry voters to booths from areas like LBS Nagar, Jyothi Nagar, Gaffar Layout, Reddy Palya, and Islampur in HAL Ward. We also went and asked voters to come out but the response was poor," said Raheem.

Further, S Ramesh Babu, BJP General Secretary, KR Puram Assembly said, many voters in the North segment also have families and friends in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala. With the polling day, falling on a weekend, many decided to take a long break. BJP North Lok Sabha segment president S Harish held BBMP and election commission officials responsible for the low turnout as he listed anomalies like name deletion and transfer of voters to other areas.

TOTAL NO. OF VOTES
32,14,496

VOTER TURNOUT

SHORTENED PRAYERS IN MASJIDS, COMMUNITY MEMBERS ASKED TO GO AND VOTE

As polling day was on Friday, Muslim community leaders and imams decided to shorten the Friday mass prayers across Masjids. Leaders said that around 1,500 Masjids in 15 Lok Sabha seats held the prayers at 1 pm and winded up by 1:20, which usually started at 12:30 pm and go on till 2:30 in various Masjids. The imams also appealed to community members to go and vote and increase the percentage of voting. Chief Imam Maqsood Imran Rashadi said, the decision was to help BBMP and election commission to increase the voting percentage and hence, prayer time was shortened to less then 30 minutes.

MESSAGE OF UNITY

"The scorching heat forced many voters to stay at home and avoid voting. We have arranged over two dozen autos to ferry voters to booths from areas like LBS Nagar, Jyothi Nagar, and Islampur in HAL Ward. We also went and asked voters to come out but the response was poor."

BANGALORE RURAL

Dr CN Manjunath after casting his vote

TEST IS BETWEEN 'PERSON' AND 'PERSONALITY'

YATHIRAJU @Bengaluru

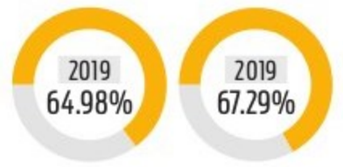
BRAVING the scorching heat, people in the high-voltage Bangalore Rural parliamentary constituency briskly cast their votes. Likening the election to a festival, local leaders of both the Congress and BJP-JDS alliance have invited voters of villages and towns settled in faraway places to come and vote, besides making all other efforts on the ground.

This constituency is a test for voters to elect a 'person or personality', with candidates DK Suresh of the Congress and Dr CN Manjunath of the BJP in the fray. Voters joined serpentine queues even in villages to exercise their franchise.

The influential DK Suresh, brother of DCM DK Shivakumar, a professional politician who has grown from the grassroots, is trying his luck to enter Parliament for the fourth time. On the other hand, Dr CN Manjunath, a renowned cardiologist and son-in-law of former PM and JDS supremo HD Deve Gowda, is new to politics. But he is seen as a rare person who has carved a niche in the hearts of countless people through his service in society. Being fielded as the NDA candidate, Manjunath has put up a tough counter to incumbent MP DK Suresh.

"We support JDS in the assembly and other local elections, but vote for DK Suresh in parliamentary elections, since he is a powerful person who is locally available," said Mujahid, a voter in Channapatna of Ramanagara district, which falls under Bengaluru Rural parliamentary constituency.

TOTAL NO. OF VOTES
28,02,580



NETIZENS PRAISE DOC WHO SAVED WOMAN

CONTINUED FREOM PAGE 1

"SHE would have lost her life had there been a delay in attending to her," Dr Prasad said.

He said, "Vasovagal Syncope could have triggered the cardiac arrest. Her heart had stopped beating when I checked. Many factors, including anxiety, heat stroke or even fear when injections are given can cause the condition."

Dr Prasad studied MBBS in Andhra Pradesh and completed Doctorate in National Board (DrNB) Nephrology at Narayana Health Centre. He worked in Tumakuru for two years. He joined Narayana Health Centre two years ago.

The incident went viral after the doctor posted the videos on X. Many responded to the posts by him and TNIE. Most of them lauded Dr Prasad and stressed the need for people to learn CPR.

PICS| VINOD KUMAR T, SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA, NAGARAJA GADEKAL, ALLEN EGENUS E J

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

27TH April : Lingering fiery alignments enhance today's romantic potential. If you're in love, devoted to creative and artistic pursuits or just on another planet, then this is a good day for you. If you're completing detailed and practical tasks, especially with machinery or lots of money, then you probably need to take extra care!

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
A quick change of mood finds you becoming slightly more down-to-earth and increasingly willing to achieve your aims by taking care of practical details. You'll realise that if a job is worth doing properly, it's also worth doing it yourself!

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
Mercury, the planet which represents your mind, has now entered a theatrical region of your chart, which means that for the next fortnight you may cut quite a dash with your ideas. It's all a question of having confidence - and of not being easily embarrassed.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
If you can take care of personal relationships with smooth and unflappable efficiency then you'll give yourself enough time to deal with financial matters later on. In fact, this is going to be a rather good time for picking up valuable bargains.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
You may get all routine chores out of the way before you turn to personal matters. For some strange reason partners will respect you more if they see that you are efficient, organised and practical! That might not always have been the case, but you must allow people to change!

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
Something - or someone - is encouraging you to take a risk. The question is whether this is now appropriate, and the answer is an unequivocal 'maybe'! The way to clear up any doubts is to give yourself as much time as you need to run through each and every possible outcome.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
Just because your ideas are the best, that doesn't give you the excuse to preach or impose your opinions on others. The secret now is to be quite discreet, confident in the knowledge that you have the future worked out. The best way to be proved right is to set a good example.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
Your behaviour at the moment seems to be slightly contradictory. You are very open with your feelings, but you're keeping some of your plans and intentions to yourself. Don't be surprised if partners should be confused. It's only to be expected!

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
The romantic situation seems to be dominated by secrecy for another few weeks at least. Something is going to happen to stir up feelings which you find it difficult to talk about, so you may just wait for the emotional waters to clear. You'll find the right words eventually.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
If you're considering any financial adventures today, even a humble shopping trip, your stars begin to look very much more business-like as the hours pass. Early on, though, there's a chance that extravagance will have overwhelmed good sense. Your generosity of spirit will be one of your better qualities.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
If you should consider cancelling any social engagements, give yourself time to think again. The point is that, as the Moon weaves among the other planets, you are likely to change your mind, and what once seemed like a waste of time will once again look like a welcome opportunity.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
Make a point of spending a little time by yourself, and don't let anyone persuade you that day-dreaming is a pointless activity. By letting your imagination wander, you will stumble across the answer to a few unsolved problems, with very worthwhile results.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
Serious choices lie ahead. Although your life seems to be dominated by the desire to achieve something big, whether you do or not is another matter! After a few hours, your priorities will have shifted and the social whirl may seem like a more attractive proposition.

SUDOKU MEDIUM

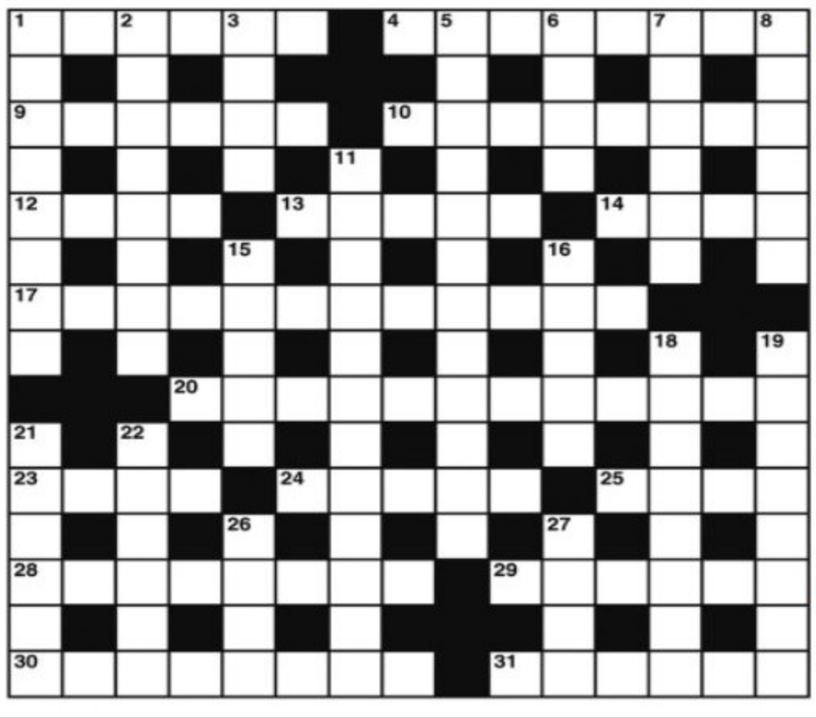
Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle ⬇

			1	3		7	9	
		3	4		7		8	5
7					8			1
3		8		1		2		
		9		4		8		3
9			8					2
6	1		2		4	9		
	2	4		7	3			

5	6	2	1	4	3	7	9	8
3	9	7	5	6	8	1	4	2
4	1	8	7	2	9	5	6	3
1	8	4	6	5	2	3	7	9
2	7	6	9	3	1	4	8	5
9	3	5	8	7	4	2	1	6
8	2	9	4	1	5	6	3	7
7	4	3	2	9	6	8	5	1
6	5	1	3	8	7	9	2	4

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS

1 Soldier with papers in order (6)
4 How mince is cooked by Chinese? (4,4)
9 I misdo translations due to language peculiarities (6)
10 Downpour makes it hard to see (8)
12 The way to travel to gain time (4)
13 Fun and games in Parliament (5)
14 It must have been sunk skilfully (4)
17 Hard case for the beautician? (4,8)
20 Prospective challenge faced by shop assistants? (12)
23 People go crazy running this way (4)
24 Recreation wear (5)
25 Jewish priest of evil disposition (4)
28 Supporter leaped exultantly about the street (8)
29 Could be Mr A to Z of music (6)
30 Act a central role then quit (8)
31 Trojan bully (6)

DOWN

1 Files put in the wrong order with malicious intent (8)
2 International shipping line (8)
3 She takes me up to mother (4)
5 To be frank the throat and ear need treatment (5-2-5)
6 Good evidence of a beating? (4)
7 Wiped out as deer may well be (6)
8 A weedy type and stingy (6)
11 Period of overtaking on the road? (7,5)
15 He may play a drunken Croat (5)
16 Period of calm for one after exercising (5)
18 Join in but don't seize the lot (4,4)
19 Make me turn sharp and sour (8)
21 Touched for a drink (6)
22 Support delay (4,2)
26 New star played a major role in Russia (4)
27 Nothing can be blamed for world revolution (4)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Snaps, 4 Contest, 8 Rid, 9 Atrocious, 10 Amongst, 11 Stake, 13 Theory, 15 Daring, 18 Stage, 19 Marshal, 21 Turned out, 23 Ice, 24 Dresses, 25 Organ.

Down: 1 Servant, 2 Andromeda, 3 Slang, 4 Curate, 5 Nicosia, 6 Ego, 7 Taste, 12 Alighting, 14 Reefers, 16 Galleon, 17 Emboss, 18 Sited, 20 Ratio, 22 Roe.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

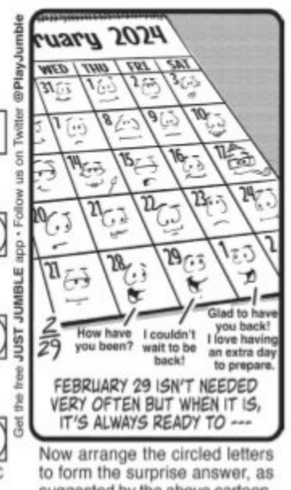
BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

LIPMY

TULOC

VITAEN

COAYNN


ruary 2024
WED
THU
FRI
SAT
How have you been?
I couldn't wait to be back!
Glad to have you back! I love having an extra day to prepare.
FEBRUARY 29 ISN'T NEEDED VERY OFTEN BUT WHEN IT IS, IT'S ALWAYS READY TO ---
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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: SALSA VENUE SWIVEL STRESS
Answer: The cruise ship's cups, bottles, vases, pitchers, jugs, etc. were the — VESSEL'S VESSELS

A flyer was caught by the Air Intelligence Unit of Airport Customs on Thursday while attempting to smuggle 799.37 grams of gold, valued at Rs 55.15 lakh. The passenger, Suresh Maini hails from Jafferkhanpet in Chennai, and had arrived in an Indigo flight (No. 6E 1006) from Singapore around 7.30 am, according to a communication from the Customs department. He had concealed the gold in paste form wrapped in a white cover in his underwear. Maini has been arrested

BARRING CHOMBU & GAS, POLL GOES OFF SMOOTHLY

A few sporadic incidents like arguments between party workers, protests were swiftly dealt with by security at poll booths

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

BARRING a few sporadic incidents, involving minor altercations between party workers at a few places, Bengaluru City largely witnessed peaceful polling during Phase II of the Parliamentary elections on Friday.

At some polling stations, some voters, despite having their voter IDs, found their names missing from the voter list. After they were stopped from casting their votes, they vented their ire at the election officials. The police personnel deployed for security had to persuade them into exiting polling booth.

Members of the Karnataka Pradesh Youth Congress (KPYC) staged a protest at a polling station in Rajajinagar on Friday morning with a chombu (small water pot) and a gas cylinder. At some places, there were arguments between the Congress and BJP workers over gift cards being disbursed among voters.

In Chamarajpet, BJP workers alleged that Congress workers were giving money to voters at their residences. A rowdy sheeter identified as 'Cutting' Seena was accused of attacking a political party worker and the police had to intervene to control the ensuing situation. At a polling station in RR Nagar, voters expressed anger as the initials of BJP candidate Dr CN Manjunath was written as 'CS Manjunath' at the entrance of the polling booths.

Indian Youth Congress president BV Srinivas and supporters arrive at a polling booth to cast their votes, in Bengaluru on Friday | PTI

Bengaluru City Police Commissioner B Dayananda told *The New Indian Express* that the elections in the city were totally peaceful. "Elections in all the five parliamentary constituencies were totally peaceful. It was an incident and violence-free election," the commissioner added.

Security proceedings taken against rowdy sheeters ahead of the polls helped the police ensure smooth elections. The security forces deployed at each polling station had kept a hawk's eye to ensure that no untoward incidents were reported from any part of the city. The Election Commission's efforts to keep a vigil through webcasting and deployment of paramilitary forces at 'critical booths' in Bengaluru Rural and Bengaluru South led to the smooth conduct of the polls in Bengaluru.

Under the Bengaluru Police Commissionerate, five Parliament constituencies went to the polls in the second phase, which was the first phase for Karnataka, wherein elections were held in 14 Lok Sabha constituencies in the southern part of the state. The constituencies under the commissionerate are Bengaluru North, Bengaluru South, Bengaluru Central, Bengaluru Rural, and Chikkaballapur. Senior officers supervised the security arrangements.

More than 13,000 policemen working in the commissionerate, 4,000 Home Guards, 11 companies of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF), 14 Karnataka State Reserve Police (KSRP), and 40 City Armed Reserve (CAR) platoons were deployed.

As many 7,533 fire-arms have been deposited in all the police stations. Section 144 had also been imposed. Liquor ban was also imposed from 5 pm on April 24 until midnight of April 26.

Buses, trains packed to the rafters as voters head home

YATHIRAJU @Bengaluru

WITH the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) diverting most of its buses for the poll day, citizens had a tough time finding buses to reach their native places to cast votes. The non-availability of sufficient buses, which required the attention of the authorities concerned, dampened the spirit of voting among people exercising their franchise.

Commuters were not able to gain entry into buses due to the crowds, which put out the question of even finding a seat. The throng, forced many voters to take the train but situation in the trains was no less. Besides, traffic on the Mysuru Road till the Kengeri crossing haunted motorists. The bus station at Satellite and the railway station at Kengeri were also overcrowded with passengers, who were desperately trying to go back to their home towns.

On the other hand, those who failed to find crowd-free buses, thronged the railway station at Kengeri with hopes of boarding a train home.

Hundreds of passengers were found crossing the tracks at Kengeri, desperate to somehow catch their trains. Boarding a train, holding his baby in one hand, Prasanna, a native of Pandavapura taluk in Mandya district who was travelling with his wife, narrated the plight of commuters who were seen cursing the authorities for not ensuring required transport facilities to cater to the needs of the poll day. "One of my friends' wedding was fixed at 10am on Friday but it was later changed to 6.15am, to help friends and relatives attend the function and later go to vote. Therefore, I came on a two-wheeler from Rajajinagar to Ullal where the wedding was held. We returned from the function, parked our two-wheeler at Kengeri railway station and took the train to my native place to vote, as there were no sufficient buses. There was no space to even step inside the train but we somehow managed to board the train," he said.

Another commuter said that the weekend has worsened the situation, with people travelling to their native places to vote and then stay on for Saturday and Sunday.

Passengers board a train for Mysuru at Kengeri Railway Station on Friday

HC quashes BJP MLA's conviction

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE Karnataka High Court has quashed the order of conviction and sentence of Uday Garudachar, BJP MLA from Chikpet assembly constituency.

He was sentenced to two months simple imprisonment with a penalty of Rs 10,000 by a magistrate special court in 2022 for not disclosing the criminal cases pending against him in the affidavit filed along with nomination papers in 2018.

This order was confirmed by an additional city civil and sessions court designated to try cases against elected representatives, in 2023, by dismissing the appeal filed by him against the conviction and sentence for the electoral offence punishable under Section 125A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

Following this, Garudachar moved the high court. Hearing the petition filed by him, Justice Krishna S Dixit quashed the order of conviction and sentence. The court noted that not every criminal case against a candidate by registration of First Information Report or by moving a private complaint has to be disclosed in the affidavit when charges have not been framed or cognizance of the offences alleged has not been taken.

HOSPITALS HELP IN-PATIENTS CAST VOTE

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

UPHOLDING the democratic spirit of the country, Manipal Hospitals in Bengaluru, in collaboration with the Election Commission of India (ECI) and Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), on Friday facilitated assisted voting for 41 patients aged between 25 and 103 years across Bengaluru constituencies.

"Patients, including 103-year-old cancer survivor Nanjunda Swamy, who is currently undergoing treatment at Manipal Hospitals, Old Airport Road, under Dr Shabber Zaveri, Kalavathi (78), undergoing treatment for pneumonia, Srinivas Rao (76), who underwent uro-surgery on Thursday, and Madhan (25), an accident victim who is on the way to recovery, voted with the help of the hospital, EC and BBMP," said Chief Operating Officer, Manipal Hospitals, Karthik Rajagopal.

He added that the patients "showcased determination despite medical adversities. Manipal Hospitals, with its initiative, ensured inclusivity and civic duty, providing transportation and medical assistance, and allowing every citizen, regardless of health circumstances, to participate in the democratic process".

Meanwhile, Sparsh Hospitals also came forward and provided transportation services, comprehensive medical assistance, and convenient access to polling booths for its in-patients.

"To ensure that our in-patients do not miss the opportunity to vote, we are providing wheelchair facility and ambulance services for them to go to polling booths," said Group COO, Sparsh Hospitals, Bengaluru, Jospeh Pasangha.

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High voter turnout will keep contest tight

DK records 77.43%, Udupi-Chikkamagaluru 76.06%, margin of victory could be around 50,000 votes

VINCENT D'SOUZA @ Mangaluru

DAKSHINA Kannada and Udupi-Chikkamagaluru Lok Sabha constituencies have maintained high polling percentage in this election too. Dakshina Kannada, where newbies Capt. Brijesh Chowta (BJP) and R Padmaraj Poojary (Congress) are contesting, saw a voter turnout of 77.43 per cent (77.90 per cent in 2019). Udupi-Chikkamagaluru witnessed a clash between veterans Kota Srinivas Poojary (BJP) and Jayaprakash Hegde (Congress) and recorded a voter turnout of 76.06 per cent (75.74 in 2019) until 6pm.

The marginal rise in voter turnout in these two segments is attributed to the stakes being very high this time for both the BJP and Congress, compared to the past elections. While BJP wants to keep its hold on this coastal-Malnad region, the grand old party had left no stone unturned to breach the saffron fortress. Calculations have already begun to understand which party will gain by the high voter turnout. According to political pundits, both these segments are likely to witness a touch-and-go contest, even as they give the benefit of doubt to the BJP. "Last time, we won by 2.73 lakh votes in Dakshina Kannada and 3.49 lakh votes in Udupi-Chikkamagalur. This time, we can't expect such a huge margin. It will be around 50,000 in both seats," said a BJP leader and former MLA.

Expressing a similar opinion, a Congress leader said the party has not counted both these seats among the 14 seats it is hoping to win in the state. However, he said it is difficult to predict the outcome at this stage, given the high voter turnout. "People could have come out to vote in large numbers to support Prime Minister Modi, or because of the five guarantees of the Congress and the Billava factor. We have to wait for the results to know how it worked," he said. The thinking in the Congress is that even if they lose by over 50,000 votes, it's a victory of sorts for them as it will be seen as a setback to the BJP's 'communal politics'. The party hopes the Billava factor, NOTA campaign over Soujanya murder case, SDPI not being in the contest and a perceived discontent in local BJP units will significantly reduce the winning margin. "Despite all these factors working in our favour, we see a deficit of around 60,000 votes. The gap can be covered only if Billavas and women back us in large numbers," said another Congress leader.

Voters queue up before a polling booth to exercise their franchise in Charmady village of Dakshina Kannada constituency on Friday | EXPRESS

UDUPI-CHIKKAMAGALURU (IN %)

Kaup	79.03
Kundapur	79.10
Karkala	78.50
Udupi	75.80
Sringeri	80.20
Mudigere	75.12
Tarikere	73.06
Chikkamagaluru	69

DAKSHINA KANNADA 77.43

UDUPI-DAKSHINA KANNADA 76.06

A polling booth vandalised in Indiganatta village of Hanur taluk in Chamarajanagar district on Friday | EXPRESS

Villagers attack booth near MM Hills, burn EVMs, injure staff

K SHIVA KUMAR @ Mysuru

TENSION prevailed at Indiganatha village in Male Mahadeshwara Wildlife Sanctuary on Friday when people set fire to electronic voting machines (EVMs) in a polling booth there and attacked election officials for "forcing" them to exercise their franchise.

The agitators had decided to boycott polling in protest against lack of basic amenities such as drinking water, roads and electricity in their village. They alleged that local officials did nothing though they had submitted several memorandums to them seeking amenities. They had to walk miles to bring drinking water. They decided to boycott polling this time when officials imposed restrictions on their movement inside the forest. Because of the restrictions, they could not even bring drinking water to their houses, they said. There are 170 houses at Indiganatha.

When people of the village did not visit the booth till 2pm, police and revenue officials contacted the voters at Mendara village near Indiganatha. They managed to bring 14 voters from Mendara to the polling booth to exercise their franchise.

Enraged by this, people of Indiganatha took the officials to task. An argument broke out and soon people of the village started throwing stones at the officials. The police resorted to a lathicharge when some election officials, including tahsildar YK Guruprasad and inspector Jagadish, were injured in stone throwing. The agitators also destroyed the EVMs, furniture, gate and the compound wall of the booth. The injured officers were treated at a hospital in MM Hills.

Assistant returning officer Mallikarjuna filed a complaint with MM Hills police, accusing the villagers, including some women, of attacking them and preventing them from doing their poll duty.

Guru Prasad said that they had gone to the village to convince voters to take part in polling. He said that it was a pre-planned attack by the villagers.

Meanwhile, Soligara Abhivrudhi Sangha president Muthaiah accused the people of Indiganatha village of attacking Soligas of Mendara village who went to the polling booth along with the officials to exercise their franchise. He said the sangha will stage a protest in MM Hills seeking action against those who had assaulted the Soligas.

Chamarajanagar SP Padmini Sahoo visited Indiganatha village.

VOTER'S DILEMMA

'We heard no beep when we cast our vote'

BANSY KALAPPA @ Bengaluru

SOME Bengalureans complained that they did not hear the beep sound as they cast their vote. They had to complain to the poll officials before the problem was set right.

Vincent Pinto, who voted at St Ann's School, Cambridge Road, Ulsoor said, "When the third presiding officer activated the EVM, I went up and pressed the button. I was waiting for the beep and the VVPAT for seven seconds, but nothing happened. I raised a complaint with the election officer and he asked me to cast your vote a second time. I pressed again, but the machine still did not beep. Only the third time it worked.

The VVPAT had registered the vote correctly. I'm a retired electronics engineer and there were 10-12 people who voted ahead of me, many of whom were senior citizens. There was no beep sound when they voted, I can vouch for it. This looks like a deliberate deception. I formally raised this complaint on the Election Commission of India website."

S Parameshwari, who voted at SBS Bandi Mutt School in Kengeri, Bangalore North, did not hear the beep when she cast her vote. She complained to the polling officer, but a sub-inspector and poll officials told her rudely, "If you want to vote you may, otherwise go away."

Chief Electoral Officer Manoj Kumar Meena said he would check the total number of people who had turned up to vote, against the total votes cast and tally them.

Voters shocked to find names deleted from list

ASHWINI M SRIPAD @ Bengaluru

RAJENDRA Babu and his wife from Shankarapuram came to cast their vote at National College in Basavanagudi, only to find the wife's name missing from the voters' list. Babu, who stays at a housing complex comprising nine units and occupied by members belonging to one family, found that many of their names were deleted. One to three names in each house have been removed from the electoral rolls.

This was not an isolated case in the Bangalore South Lok Sabha constituency. But it was reported from across Bengaluru. When The New Indian Express visited the polling station at National College, Basavanagudi, at least 40-50 people were standing with their EPIC cards, disappointed at their names being deleted from the list. They returned home dejected.

"I have been voting here for the last 30 years at the same polling station, but this time, strangely, it's deleted," said Sowbhagya, a resident of Shankarapuram, who was at the polling station to cast her vote.

Another resident, Trishaladevi, who is also from Shankarapuram, also found her name missing from the list. "It's not just me here. There are many who have registered voter ID cards, but their names are not there on the list. I feel bad because our vote got wasted this time," she said. "How can they delete the names just like that?"

Senior citizen Sudhir Mehta came all the way to vote in the scorching heat, only to end up exclaiming: "My name has been deleted!" Some were shocked to find their names marked, but voted by someone else in their stead. Sanjay M Jain from Basavanagudi, who came with his registered EPIC card, said, "My name is not deleted, but someone marked my name as voted. I am feeling bad for not getting the chance to exercise my right in my own name." When he brought up the issue, he alleged that nobody listened to him.

Sajjan Raj Mehta, a trade activist, told this paper that at Chickpet — which comes under the Bangalore Central Lok Sabha Constituency — hundreds of names were deleted. "We do not know if it is intentionally done or mischievously, but whoever has done it, they should be taken to task," he said. He also mentioned that most of them are residents of Bengaluru and had North Indian names. A senior official from the Chief Electoral Office in Karnataka said that in spite of giving publicity and spreading awareness over days, appealing to the public to check their names on the list, and see whether their names exist on the list, many have not done it. "It is not fair to pass the blame at the last minute," he said.

A policeman keeps vigil as citizens arrive at a polling station in Bangalore North Constituency, in Bengaluru on Friday | ALLEN EGENUSE J

KEEPING WATCH

Plaint against Surya for 'seeking votes on religion'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

A case has been booked against Bengaluru South sitting BJP MP **Tejasvi Surya** for posting a video in X, seeking votes on the grounds of religion. The complaint was filed at the Jayanagar police station on Thursday.

"A case was booked against Tejasvi Surya on Thursday at Jayanagar police station under Section 123(3) for posting a video on 'X' and soliciting votes on grounds of religion," Karnataka Chief Electoral Officer Manoj Kumar Meena said on Friday.

Surya posted a 40-second video on 'X', stating, "Our generation was blessed to witness the majestic Surya Tilak on Bhagwan Shri Ram at Ayodhya on Ram Navami. A wait for almost 500 years & a wish of crores of Bharatiyas was fulfilled by PM Shri @narendramodi Ji. For Bharatiyata to survive, vote for BJP!"

₹4.8 cr seized in C'ballapur

The Flying Squad Team and District Returning officer for the Chikkaballapur constituency seized Rs 4.8 crore cash, allegedly meant to be distributed among voters.

Based on a reliable tipoff, a house that falls under the Yelahanka assembly constituency and Chikkaballapur Parliamentary constituency was raided. Sources said a senior police officer received a WhatsApp message from Dr K Sudhakar, BJP candidate from the constituency. A case has been registered at the Madanayakanahalli police station under IPC sections 171B, 171C, 171E, 171F. The police have registered the FIR.

Meanwhile, the BJP filed six complaints against Congress and various individuals before the Chief Electoral Officer, Karnataka as well as the ECI on Friday, over various allegations.

Despite ban, phones make their way to booths

POLLING THROUGH THE DAY

Voting started at 7am and till 9am, the turnout was 9.21%. It increased to 23.34% by 11am. By 1am, the turnout increased to 38.23%, which was a marginal rise. The same trend continued till 3pm, where the turnout was 50.93%. There was again a rise till 5.30 pm in the number of people voting and the percentage increased to 63.90. This raised the hopes among election officials and psephologists of the rise in polling percentage this election.

POLLING PERCENTAGE COMPARISON

CONSTITUENCIES	2019	2024
Udupi- Chikkamagaluru	76.07	76.06
Hassan	77.35	77.51
Dakshina Kannada	72.27	77.43
Chitradurga	70.8	73.11
Tumakuru	77.43	77.70
Mandya	80.59	81.48
Mysuru-Kodagu	69.51	70.45
Chamarajanagar	75.35	76.59
Bangalore Rural	64.98	67.29
Bangalore North	54.76	54.42
Bangalore Central	54.32	52.81
Bangalore South	53.70	53.15
Chikkaballapura	76.74	76.82
Kolar	77.25	78.07

In all, 2,88,08,182 people were eligible to vote in Phase-2 polling in 30,602 booths. Of the 247 candidates in the fray, 21 are women.

PIC: ALLEN EGENUSE J

67.40 NATIONAL VOTING PERCENTAGE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE

POLLING was largely peaceful, barring violence in Chamarajanagar, where a mob damaged a booth and burnt voting machines. Additional CEO Venkatesh Kumar said, "Till 1.30pm, there was no voting at Indiganatha village in MM Hills area of Chamarajanagar constituency. Staffers deployed there started visiting homes urging people to vote. The staffers started bringing in people and nine had voted till 1.50pm. But then a mob came and damaged the EVMs and burnt them. The staffers fled the booth fearing for their lives. Voting stopped there at 3pm. The matter has been reported to the Election Commission."

A case of death of an assistant presiding officer of Hottepanahalli Gollarahatti polling booth in Chitradurga constituency was reported. Yashodamma, 58, died after suffering a cardiac arrest. "The ECI has been informed and a compensation of Rs 15 lakh will be given to her family," Meena said.

The CEO said FIRs were filed against BJP leader CT Ravi on April 26 and BJP MP Tejasvi Surya on April 25 for soliciting votes on religious grounds and promoting hatred and enmity through their social media handle-X. Cases of technical glitches were reported in various constituencies, including Bangalore Central and Chitradurga. In the case of Bangalore Central's Shanthinagar assembly constituency, a thorough check was done and the complaint that the ballot button of the control unit was not working, was found to be incorrect.

Meena said voting took place for two hours in Chitradurga and then a glitch was reported. It was immediately rectified. Overall, an error of 0.7% in VVPATs was reported.

With the help of Chunavane App, many people took pick-and-drop facilities to reach polling booths. Facilities for the specially challenged voters were made. Private hospitals in Bengaluru arranged special vehicles to bring voters to polling booths.

Despite a ban on the use of mobile phones inside the booths, the CEO office recorded four instances of people videographing while voting. "We found two cases in Bangalore South where voters are seen voting for BJP and Congress candidates," the official said.

Woman poll officer dies of heart attack in Chitradurga

CHITRADURGA: A poll official suffered a heart attack and died during poll duty at Megala Gollarahatti, Hotteppanahalli of Challakere taluk on Friday. **Yashodhamma** (58) was a teacher at the Government Higher Primary School, Bhommasandra. She was officiating as assistant presiding officer at the polling station under the Chitradurga parliamentary constituency. Assistant Returning Officer B Anand reported that Yashodamma experienced discomfort in the morning and was taken to hospital, where she was declared dead. He said she developed BP-related issues and was shifted to hospital, but she died on the way. An alternative official was replaced, and polling went on smoothly. Returning Officer Venkatesh T said the medical report of the officer is being collected. **ENS**

Electoral journey takes detour as B'luru voters' make expressway escape

KARTHIK K K @ Mysuru

AMIDST low turnout concerns in Bengaluru's urban heart, a curious twist emerged as registered voters flocked to the Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway's culinary havens and sought solace in Nagarahole and Bandipur's natural embrace.

Tech-savvy denizens, predominantly hailing from North India, who are registered voters in Bengaluru, shunned ballot queues for a rendezvous

with friends, citing the allure of an extended weekend.

While a few took a casual drive or bike ride towards restaurants on the Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway, zooming past civic duty, a spirited cohort of bikers roared into a weekend house bash, leaving voting booths in their rear-view.

In a display of modern-day priorities, these people, along with their group of friends, while a few with their families, gathered around tables, engaging in conversations while relishing the gastronomic delights on offer.

While a few headed to have a culinary delight, a few travel freaks and 'wanderers' which they love to be called decided to find refuge in the lush greenery of Nagarahole and Bandipur.

The majestic landscapes, echoing with the calls of wildlife, provided a serene backdrop for those seeking solace away from the urban hustle, forgetting the importance of exercising one's voting rights.

One such voter, Rahul Singh, who had come with his friend for a bike ride early in the day, shared his perspective, saying, "While I understand the importance of voting, I also value spending quality time with my friends. This weekend presented a rare opportunity for us to come together, and I didn't want to miss out on that."

However, not everyone viewed this trend with a nonchalant attitude. Concerned citizens and activists expressed their dismay over the apparent apathy towards civic duty, emphasising the significance of each vote in shaping the country's future.

Nanjaiah, who has been actively voting since the last five decades and a vocal advocate for voter awareness, said, "It's disheartening to see individuals prioritise leisure over their fundamental right to vote. Every vote matters, and it's crucial for citizens to actively participate in the democratic process."

A major fire broke out at Allen Homeo and Herbal Products factory in Nandigama, Rangareddy district near Hyderabad. Around 50 employees were working in the factory at the time of the accident, only one suffered head injuries and the rest managed to escape unhurt

Kerala records 70.35% turnout

Eight people collapse and die due to extreme heat, exhaustion

LDF candidate Pannyan Raveendran interacts with supporters at a polling booth after casting his vote, while (right) Congress candidate Shashi Tharoor waits in a queue to cast his vote, in Thiruvananthapuram on Friday

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Thiruvananthapuram

IN a Lok Sabha election that stood out for an unprecedented delay of about five hours in many polling booths, leading to voters returning without casting their franchise, Kerala on Friday recorded a voter turnout of 70.35% – over 7% lower than the previous 2019 LS poll. The low voter turnout has ignited hopes for the Left while the UDF has approached the Election Commission alleging that free and fair elections were not held.

Meanwhile, eight persons collapsed and died due to extreme heat and exhaustion in Palakkad, Alappuzha, Kozhikode and Malappuram districts. Braving the blistering heat, voters turned out in large numbers in the initial hours, thus recording brisk polling in almost all places, except in constituencies like Ponnani and Malappuram. The initial enthusiasm wore off by afternoon as polling became slow in southern and central districts.

However, the northern districts witnessed huge voter turnout in the evening hours with serpentine queues in many polling booths. Widespread incidents of EVM malfunctions were reported in Pathanamthitta, where authorities had to replace 40 machines. Polling was held peacefully across the state, with no major incidents of violence.

With polling continuing in about 200 booths in northern Kerala even after 10 pm, the final poll percentage is likely to go up. Polling got delayed in many booths in Kannur, Vadakara, Kozhikode, Malappuram and Alathur. At 10pm, 2,091 out of 2,248 booths in Kannur completed the voting process while polling was on at 157 booths. Similarly, in Vadakara polling was completed at 1,191 of the 1,206 booths by 10pm.

Polling began at 7am with a few incidents of EVM glitches reported from some districts. Political parties and voters in Vadakara complained that voting process was delayed because officials took more time for verification of documents. They also said that it took more time for the voting machine to generate the beep sound, confirming the completion of the process.

Vadakara MLA KK Rema registered a complaint with the Election Commission in this regard. Complaints in EVMs resulted in delays at Kainakary, Aroor, Mavelikkara and some other places.

Barring a few stray incidents, the polling remained relatively peaceful in Pathanamthitta. UDF candidate Anto Antony, staged a protest at a polling booth in Kumbazha against alleged malfunctioning of EVM. Election authorities replaced 40 voting machines, including 20 VVPATs, which had developed snags during polling.

Rajeev Chandrasekhar fails to vote in B'luru, stays back in T'puram

As BJP's candidate for Thiruvananthapuram Rajeev Chandrasekhar failed to cast his vote, the CPI has now questioned the union minister's faith in the democratic process. Rajeev revealed that he had missed the election as he could not transfer his vote from Bengaluru. "I regret that I could not travel to Bengaluru to cast my vote. I have been voting there for years. However, this time, my priority is to be here in Thiruvanathapuram. I think this election will create history," he said. Rajeev is in a three-cornered fight with UDF and LDF for the Thiruvananthapuram constituency. Questioning the union minister's faith in democratic process, CPI leader GR Anil said, "Rajeev's actions prove his lack of faith in democracy. This is a very serious issue. The action of the minister reflects the corporate interest. This will be the position they would take in future as well." Anil said that the Pannyan Raveendran's chances of winning are high.

Pinarayi knew about EP, Javadekar meet: Cong

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Alappuzha/Kochi/T'Puram

SENIOR Congress leaders K C Venugopal and V D Satheesan have alleged that CPM leader E P Jayarajan held discussions with BJP's Kerala in-charge Prakash Javadekar with the knowledge of Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan.

"Jayarajan admitted he met Javadekar. The chief minister's response also revealed a clear-cut deal between CPM and BJP in Kerala. Pinarayi is justifying Jayarajan. It shows the meeting between Jayarajan and Javadekar had taken place with his knowledge. As per the deal, CPM will help BJP in 2-3 seats. In return, the Union government will drop the Lavalin case and the Karuvannur Cooperative Bank fraud case. Both CPM and BJP have joined hands to destroy Congress," said Congress general secretary and Alappuzha UDF candidate K C Venugopal after casting his vote in Thiruvambady on Friday. "Pinarayi is now disowning Jayarajan after the alleged links between CPM and BJP has been exposed," V D Satheesan said.

He said Pinarayi will make Jayarajan a scapegoat to escape the onus of a massive defeat in the LS polls. "Pinarayi, the first accused, is attempting to escape after disowning the co-accused. The UDF's question is what the CM and Jayarajan communicated with Javedakar. Pinarayi has issues only with the self-styled power broker Nandakumar as he was a supporter of V S Achuthanandan," he alleged.

POCSO ACT

Odisha HC expresses concern over false cases

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Cuttack

THE Orissa High Court has expressed concern over rise in false cases filed under the POCSO Act while quashing criminal prosecution against the accused in five separate cases of sexual offences under the Act. In all the cases the accused had sought quashing of the respective criminal cases on the ground that the parties have settled their disputes and they no longer desire to pursue the trial.

The order said that except in one case, where the genesis of sexual relationship between the accused and the victim can be said to be forcible, unilateral act by the accused, in all the four other cases, the sexual act was consensual, voluntary though uncontrolled and impulsive. Four of the cases had ended in marriage between accused and the victim at different stages of proceedings after FIR was registered and chargesheet was filed. The parties are purportedly leading happy married conjugal lives and had approached jointly praying for quashing the respective proceedings. The single judge bench of Justice Sibo Sankar Mishra observed in the April 22 order, that the POCSO Act was enacted to prohibit non-consensual sexual relationships with children, including child sexual abuse and sexual harassment. "While the stringent provisions of the POCSO Act have contributed positively to reduce sexual violence against children, they have also led to an increase in vindictive litigation, with false cases being filed against individuals under the Act."

EXPRESS READ

56-yr-old man arrested for raping minor

Bengaluru: Ashoknagar police arrested a 56-year-old beggar from Delhi for allegedly raping an eight-year-old girl near Garuda Mall, Bengaluru on Thursday night. The accused has been identified as Rajan. The victim and her parents sell balloons near the mall. The girl's father is from Tamil Nadu and mother, who is speech impaired, hails from Davanagere. Police said the accused asked the victim's mother to send her with him as he wanted to buy her some chaats. He then took the girl to a secluded place and allegedly raped her under a heavy vehicle that was parked there.

Marwaris in Malkajgiri inclined to BJP: Sources

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

REVANTH Reddy was elected in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, months after losing in the 2018 Assembly polls. While Revanth won with 38.63% of votes, Marri Rajashekhar Reddy of the BRS stood a close second with 37.93% while the BJP candidate was a distant third with 19.47%.

This time, the Congress candidate is Suneetha Reddy. She is Ranga Reddy Zilla Parishad chairperson and wife of former minister P Mahender Reddy. The BRS candidate, Ragidi Laxma Reddy, who quit the Congress last year after he was denied an Assembly ticket, was a close aide of Revanth and worked for him when he contested from Malkajgiri in 2019.

When asked about their preference, voters who favoured the BJP mostly had only two responses: "I want to vote for Modi" or "I know Eatala but I'm not very familiar with the other two candidates." Political analysts also point out that while Suneetha Reddy is known in political circles, she is relatively new to the voters.

As for Laxma Reddy, Rasoolpura resident Rahim said: "I heard he was the assembly in-charge in Uppal. But I saw him only during an iftar party recently, when KTR introduced him to us. He did not hold a rally or a meeting with us after that."

Laxma Reddy, a native of Hyderabad, has repeatedly stressed in his election campaigns that the BJP and Congress candidates are non-locals and that the people would support a local leader like him. (Eatala is from erstwhile Karimnagar district and Suneetha is from Tandur of Vikarabad district.)

However, political analysts say this is not a major issue. In the 2019 elections, though the BRS and BJP fielded local candidates, people voted for Revanth, who hails from erstwhile Mahbubnagar district.

There is a significant presence of migrant settlers from Tamil Nadu and other states in Malkajgiri. "In the previous elections, the BRS made a lot of promises in favour of the Tamil community but they did not follow through. So, most of our community members are looking to vote for the Congress or the BJP," said Rajkumar, a settler from Tamil Nadu. "Some of the Tamils in the constituency say they would vote for the BJP as Modi recently extended his support to the Tamil language," he added.

Political sources say the Marwaris in the constituency are inclined towards the BJP. There are also a lot of people who migrated from districts within the state, mostly from north Telangana. So, all parties are crafting strategies to get the votes of settlers.

यूनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया / **Union Bank of India**
भारत सरकार का उपक्रम — A Government of India Undertaking

Regional Office: 2254, "Koushalya", 3rd Floor, South Wing, Vinoba Road, Mysore - 570 005

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable properties charged/mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/ Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of **Union Bank of India** (Secured Creditor), will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is"** on date mentioned below, for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to Union Bank of India from the below mentioned Borrower(s)& Guarantor(s). The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit are also mentioned hereunder:

Union Bank Of India, Mandya - Bommanayakanahalli Branch, Bevoor Post, Channapatna Taluk, Ramanagara Dist. - 562108

Name & Address of the Borrowers & Guarantor/s	Amount due Rs.
1. Mr. Nagegowda C S/o Channaiah, Thoreshettahalli Village & Post, Athagur Hobli, Maddur Tq, Mandya **2. Mrs. Sowmya A R** W/o Venkatesh A R, Abbur Village, Kasaba Hobli, Channapatna.	Rs. 38,86,328/-

All the Part and Parcel of Vacant Site in the Name of Sowmya A R. Property Bearing Katha No 1914/412(old) Assessment No. 2721/412 and Property No. 3-2-527-378 Bearing N. 378, 18th Cross, Block No 2, Ward No.3, M G Layout Channapatna Town, Ramanagara. Measuring East – West: 30 Ft, North – South: 40ft. Total 1200sqft. **Bounded By**: The East: Site No 411, West: 9th Cross Road, North: Site No 413, South: 2nd Main Road.
Date & Time of E-Auction: on 14/05/2024 @ 12.00 Noon to 05.00PM. Reserve Price: 18,70,000/-. Earnest money to be deposited: Rs. 1,87,000/-.

Union Bank Of India, Channapatna Branch, No. 2911/4-10, B M Road, Kuvempunagar, Channapatna, Ramanagara - 562160

Name & Address of the Borrowers & Guarantor/s	Amount due Rs.
1. Mrs. Sumithramma, W/o Late Rangaswamy, No.55-3, Chikkamaluru, Channapatna. **2. Mr. M0han C R** S/o Late Rangaswamy, No. 55-1, Chikkamaluru, Channapatna. **3. Mr. Madhu C R** S/o Late Rangaswamy, No- 55-3, Chikkamaluru, Channapatna. **4. Ms. Sowjanya** D/o Late Ranga Swamy, No. 55-2, Chikkamaluru, Channapatna.	Rs. 35,19,781/-

All the part and parcel of Residential House in the name of Mrs. Sumithramma, Bearing Property No 414, Katha No 3245, Chikkamalur Village, Kasaba Hobli, Channapatna. Measuring 2000 Sqft. **Bounded By**: East: Property of Prabha, West: Property of C.G. Venkatesh, North: Property of Chikkaidegowda, South: Road.
Date & Time of E-Auction: on 14/05/2024 @ 12.00 Noon to 05.00PM. Reserve Price: 6,89,000/-. Earnest money to be deposited: Rs. 69,000/-.

Union Bank Of India, Ramanagara E-CB Branch, #316, Ijoor, Near Bus Stand, Ramanagara – 571511 Ph. No: - 080-27275035,

Name & Address of the Borrowers & Guarantor/s	Amount due Rs.
1. M/s. A P R Silks, Prop: Arif Pasha, No.332/687/6/1, Behind Keb Compound, Ward No. 11, Kothipura, Amanikere, Hunasanahalli Road, Rehamaniya Nagar, Ramanagara – 562159 **2. Mr. Arif Pasha,** S/o Mukthra Pasha, 1st Cross, Yarabnagara Mohalla, Ramangara - 562159	Rs. 83,48,297/-

All the prat and parcel of Residential House in the Name of Arif Pasha, Property Bearing Katha No. 332/687/6/1, Situated at Ward No.211, Kothipura Amanikere, Ramanagara. Measuring East-West: 30ft, North-South: 170ft. Total 5100 Sqft. **Bounded** By: East: Govt Road, West: Govt Road, North: Remaining Property of Mukthar Pasha in Same Number, South: Govt Road.
Date & Time of E-Auction: on 14/05/2024 @ 12.00 Noon to 05.00PM. Reserve Price: 80,26,000/-. Earnest money to be deposited: Rs. 8,03,000/-.

1. M/s. S P R Silks Prop: Sadiq Pasha, 1st Cross, Near Noorani Mosque, Yarab Nagar, Ramanagara. **2. Mr. Ziaulla** S/o Shafiulla, No – 3653, Mehaboob Nagar, Ramanagara.	Rs. 81,59,877/-

All the Prat and Parcel of Residential House in the Name of Sadik Pasha, Property Bearing No. 21/4, New No.789/21/4, Situated at Ward No.24/4, Kothipura Extension, Ramanagara, Measuring East-West: 95 Ft, North-South: 40 Ft Total 3800 Sqft. **Bounded By:** East: Land of Mukthar Pasha, West: Land of Mukthar Pasha, North: Road, South: Government Halla.
Date & Time of E-Auction: on 14/05/2024 @ 12.00 Noon to 05.00PM. Reserve Price: 78,22,000/-. Earnest money to be deposited: Rs. 7,83,000/-.

1. Mrs. Saniya Kausar W/o Afzal Pasha, No. 56, Ward No 22, Rahamaniya Nagara, 3rd Cross, Ramanagara, Channapatan Tq, Ramanagara **2. Mrs. Sayeeda Munavari** W/o M D Imran, Kothipura, Amanikere Ward No 23, Ramangara	Rs. 29,24,574/-

All the Prat and Parcel of Residential House in the Name of Syeed Munavari Property Bearing Katha No 203/388/1a, Situated at Ward No.23/1, Kothipura Amanikere, Ramanagara. Measuring East-West: 20 Sqft, North-South: 60 Sqft. Total 1200sqft. **Bounded By**: East: Property of Mohammed Yusuff, West: Site of Mohamadhi Irfan Banu, North: Property of Ayaz, South: Kothipura Main Road.
Date & Time of E-Auction: on 14/05/2024 @ 12.00 Noon to 05.00PM. Reserve Price: 26,66,000/-. Earnest money to be deposited: Rs. 2,67,000/-.

For detailed terms and condition of the sale and registration and login and bidding rules visit: please refer to the link provided https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp, https://www.unionbankofindia.co.in//english/TendelViewAllAuction.aspx

Date: 24-04-2024
Place: Mysore

Sd/- Authorized Officer
Union Bank of India

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE FOR THE SUPPLY OF STORES No E-08/2024

The following e-Tenders are published in IREPS website. Firms are requested to Login to & services (new) and quote against these tenders. Manual quotations will not be entertained for these tenders. **Closing time for all tenders 14:30 hours.**

Sl.No	Tender No	Description	Due Date	Quantity
1.	82245108	AUTO DESK	03/05/2024	2 items
2.	26242308	HIGH CAPACITY EMU	06/05/2024	43.00 Nos
3.	11240505A	WATER RAISING 3 PHASE HORIZONTAL CENTRIFUGAL	06/05/2024	673.00 Nos
4.	06244300A	POLYSTER STAPLE FIBRE PILLOW	06/05/2024	68442.00 Nos
5.	11244211	MEASURING AND MONITORING RELAY	06/05/2024	1760.00 Nos
6.	06244283	ALUMINIUM EXTRUDED EQUAL ANGLE MOULDING	06/05/2024	13399.00 Kg
7.	2624145223	TEETH PINION FOR TM HS-15250	06/05/2024	283.00 Nos
8.	26242101	SET OF CONNECTING STRAP FOR WAP-4	06/05/2024	58.00 Sets
9.	26242307	MVMT IMPELLER WITH 24 BLADES AND DUCT	07/05/2024	87.00 Nos
10.	26242023	PINION END BEARING FOR HITACHI TRACTION MOTOR	07/05/2024	409.00 Nos
11.	06245001	UTS THERMAL TICKET PRINTER	07/05/2024	337.00 Nos
12.	26241426	ELECTRO VALVE ASSEMBLY	07/05/2024	3070.00 Nos
13.	11245002A	DESIGN, MANUFACTURE - HEAVY DUTY PASSENGER LIFT	08/05/2024	2.00 Nos
14.	01244313	PAINT READY MIXED, BLACK	08/05/2024	39120.00 Ltrs
15.	26243533	FINGER CONTACT SEGMENT ASSEMBLY	09/05/2024	915.00 Nos
16.	02245084	TRASTUZUMAB INJ	10/05/2024	789.00 Nos
17.	51245326	SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING & COMMISSIONING OF OFF LOCO TEST KIT	10/05/2024	1.00 No
18.	90245841	SUPPLY OF VARIOUS TYPE OF BOARD	13/05/2024	12 Items
19.	02245201	NON-SEDATIVE COUGH SYRUP	14/05/2024	39340.00 Nos
20.	04240957	BALL JOINT ROLL LINK FOR FIAT BOGIE	14/05/2024	4189.00 Nos
21.	03245608	MANUFACTURE AND SUPPLY OF FABRICATED ANTI-CREEP DEVICE	14/05/2024	1000.00 ET
22.	68237211A	CAMSHAFT ASSEMBLY ENGINE LEFT BANK	14/05/2024	32.00 Nos
23.	68237291A	CAM SHAFT ASSEMBLY - ENGINE RIGHT BANK	14/05/2024	31.00 Nos
24.	90237782	SUPPLY, INSTALLATION AND COMMISSIONING OF ELECTRICAL DRIVEN ROTARY SCREW AIR COMPRESSOR	14/05/2024	2.00 Set
25.	06244257	DENSIFIED THERMAL BONDED POLYESTER BLOCK	15/05/2024	4759.00 Nos
26.	02245204	HYLAN POLYMERS 48 MG INTRA ARTICULAR INJ	15/05/2024	263.00 Nos
27.	02245169T	RASTUZUMAB EMTANSINE INJ	16/05/2024	143.00 Nos
28.	15240122A	PVC INSULATED CABLE 24 CORE X 1.5 sqmm.	16/05/2024	22166.00 Mtrs
29.	03245116A	PROCUREMENT OF INTEL CORE I5 14 INCH LAPTOP	16/05/2024	123.00 Nos
30.	26242328	SECONDARY SUSPENSION SPRING FOR WAP-4	16/05/2024	736.00 Nos
31.	04240455	SINGLE PIECE FRP LOUVRE SHUTTER	16/05/2024	7117.00 Nos
32.	78245202	AUTOMATIC TWIST LOCK FOR ATL	16/05/2024	1200.00 Nos
33.	67235323A	SIDE MIDDLE COPING & SIDE MIDDLE COPING (DOOR WAY)	16/05/2024	2 Items
34.	78236688A	SET OF ITEMS FOR PRESSURIZED FLUSHING SYSTEM	16/05/2024	16 Items
35.	14245004	SUPPLY & INSTALLATION OF SELECTIVE PALLET RACKING SYSTEM	17/05/2024	1.00 Set
36.	26242078	SUSPENSION TUBE (CASTED)	17/05/2024	198.00 Nos
37.	03245601A	ELASTIC RAIL CLIP MK-V TO RDSO DRG. NO.T-5919	17/05/2024	9880000.00 Nos
38.	52245466	JOURNAL BEARING ASM CLASS F	17/05/2024	108.00 Nos
39.	52245483	BULL GEAR 77 TEETH - 18440066	17/05/2024	2 Items
40.	03245606	MANUFACTURE AND SUPPLY OF COMPOSITE GROOVED RUBBER SOLE PLATES	20/05/2024	5000000.00 Nos
41.	02236559	REAGENT FOR CONDUCTING GLYCATED HAEMOGLOBIN INVESTIGATION/ THALASSEMIA	20/05/2024	2 Items
42.	02245101	HUMAN R-DNA INSULIN MIX	20/05/2024	185140.00 Nos
43.	02245093	MIXED INSULIN 30 / 70 300 I.U CARTRIDGE	20/05/2024	45410.00 Nos
44.	26245002	MAIN TRANSFORMER 7775 KV	20/05/2024	12.00 Nos
45.	02245089	INSULIN GLARGINE 100 I.U/ML, 3L	21/05/2024	51940.00 Nos
46.	04240814	BATTERY BOX COVER (110 V)	21/05/2024	1730.00 Nos
47.	02245068	HUMAN ALBUMIN 20% 100 ML INJECTION	21/05/2024	1439.00 Nos
48.	03245603	MANUFACTURE AND SUPPLY OF ELASTIC RAIL CLIP	21/05/2024	10282000.00 Nos
49.	15240491	HIGH SILICA LOCOMOTIVE SAND	22/05/2024	768237.00 Kgs
50.	29233252B	SUPPLY OF DAMPER PRIMARY VERTICAL	22/05/2024	552.00 Nos
51.	02245070	TRANSCATHETER AORTIC VALVE IMPLANT	22/05/2024	6.00 Nos
52.	11240586	VRLA TYPE 120 AH CAPACITY BATTERIES	22/05/2024	458.00 Set
53.	02245096	PIPERACILLIN 4.0 GMS AND TAZOBACTUM 0.5 GMS INJ	23/05/2024	45360.00 Nos
54.	78236241A	INTER CAR GANGWAY MOUNTING TO LHB COACHE	23/05/2024	136.00 Nos
55.	03245105	TUNGSTEN CARBIDE TAMPING TOOL	24/05/2024	5 Items
56.	902456145	WATT VHF DIGITAL WALKIE TALKIE SET	24/05/2024	1527.00 Set
57.	02245077	METFORMIN 500 MG ORAL TABLET	27/05/2024	12363200.00 Nos
58.	44240020	SLACK ADJUSTER	27/05/2024	326.00 Nos
59.	04240956	BALL JOINT TRACTION LEVER FOR FIAT BOGIE	28/05/2024	3474.00 Nos
60.	02236548	URINE ANALYSER (REAGENT RENTAL BASIS)	31/05/2024	100000.00 Nos
61.	04241054	DUMP VALVE WITH BRACKET COMPLETE	31/05/2024	64.00 Nos
62.	02236546	SUPPLY OF CULTURE MEDIA REAGENTS	31/05/2024	45000.00 Nos
63.	04240921	KIT FOR BRAKE GEAR BUSHES	03/06/2024	3150.00 Set
64.	78236614A	SUPPLY OF UNDERFRAME CABLE DUCT AND PIPE	03/06/2024	67.00 Set
65.	02245023	METFORMIN 1000 MG	04/06/2024	2978860.00 Nos
66.	06241101	GREASE NO. O GRAPHITED	04/06/2024	278642.00 Kg
67.	44240429	MODIFIED ELASTOMERIC PAD	06/06/2024	50817.00 Nos
68.	04240456	TWO PIECE GLASS SHUTTER	06/06/2024	2859.00 Nos
69.	02236547	SUPPLY OF HEMATOLOGY REAGENTS	07/06/2024	350000.00 Nos
70.	44240593	CONSTANT CONTACT POLYURETHANE SIDE BEARER PAD ASSEMBLY	07/06/2024	2699.00 Set
71.	02245033	LINAGLIPTIN 5 MG TAB	07/06/2024	555900.00 Nos
72.	04240138	BOGIE FRAME OF LHB COACHES	10/06/2024	105.00 Nos
73.	02245103	POLY AXIAL PEDICLE SCREW FOR SINGLE LOCK SPINAL SYSTEM	10/06/2024	250.00 Nos
74.	02245208	FERRIC CARBOXYMALTOSE INJ 500 MG VIAL	11/06/2024	1800.00 Nos
75.	04240910	INJECTION MOULDED POLYACETAL PROTECTIVE TUBE	14/06/2024	8157.00 Nos

The following e-Bid have been published in GeM Website. Firms are requested to login to **www.gem.gov.in** and quote against the following e-bid. Manual quotations will not be entertained

76.	GEM/2024/B/4857556	SOLAR POWER PLANT (ROOF TOP)	09/05/2024	1.00 No
77.	GEM/2024/B/4880306	DRINKING WATER COOLER	07/05/2024	100.00 Nos

Principal Chief Materials Manager

Our five guarantees are on the lines of Basavanna's principle of helping the poor
Siddaramaiah, Chief Minister

(From left) Vedic scholars and students show off their inked fingers after voting in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections in Bengaluru on Friday; Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman poses for a selfie after voting in Bengaluru; A cop helps a woman on a wheelchair at a polling booth in the state capital; Mysuru-Kodagu BJP candidate Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar, his wife Trishika and Rajmata Pramoda Devi Wadiyar after voting in Mysuru | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA, NAGARAJA GADEKAL, EXPRESS, UDAYASHANKAR S

Modi govt made 20-25 people billionaires: Rahul

Reiterates commitment to redistribute nation's wealth among the needy; says BJP destroying democracy, Constitution

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Vijayapura

ACCUSING the Modi government of distributing the national wealth among only 20–25 persons and making them billionaires, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has asserted that after coming to power, the I.N.D.I.A bloc would distribute equal quantum of money among the poor, farmers, and women through different welfare schemes.

Addressing an election rally in Vijayapura on Friday, the former AICC president said that only 1% of the people in the country have the wealth equivalent to the wealth owned by over 70 crore people.

"This has happened in India during the last 10 years of the Modi government, where a small section of wealthy people have become wealthier. The Modi government has handed over public sector units, ports, airports, and other national resources to a few businessmen, such as Adani," Rahul said.

Rahul said that the I.N.D.I.A bloc will ensure that the wealth of the nation is redistributed among the needy people who have been deprived of it by the NDA government.

Rahul Gandhi said that the ongoing Lok Sabha election is not like any other General Election as people have to choose between those who are determined to destroy the country's democracy and the Constitution and those who are striving to save it. He said that PM Modi and his BJP are making every effort to destroy the democratic system and the Constitution.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, ministers MB Patil and Shivanand Patil, AICC General Secretary Randeep Singh Surjewala, AICC election observer Sayed Burhanuddin, and several Congress MLAs were present.

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and Chief Minister Siddaramaiah greet the gathering at a rally in Vijayapura on Friday | EXPRESS

Under Modi government, a small section of wealthy people have become wealthier — Rahul Gandhi, Congress leader

'Will scrap Agniveer'

Describing the Agniveer as a scheme that is aimed at weakening the Armed Forces, Rahul Gandhi announced to scrap the policy in order to give equal salary, equal pension, and equal ration facility to the jawans.

Promises to amend GST regime

Calling the GST regime completely unscientific and anti-trade, Rahul Gandhi said that the I.N.D.I.A bloc will bring radical changes to it to make it trader-friendly. "Today, because of the faulty GST system, Karnataka gives Rs 100 to the Centre, but in return, it gets only Rs 13 from the Centre. This is causing injustice to the states. Our government will amend the GST system," he said.

'Law on MSP'

Rahul said that when voted to power, the I.N.D.I.A bloc government will not only ensure a law on MSP to help farmers but will also waive farm loans.

'We will financially empower women'

"As far as women are concerned, the government will identify poor women from every family in the country and will give Rs 1 lakh to each woman annually. In Karnataka, it will become Rs 1.24 lakh as the state is already giving Rs 24,000 each year to women under the Gruha Lakshmi scheme," he said.

Sensing defeat, PM making irresponsible remarks: Siddu

ENS @ Vijayapura

CLAIMING that PM Narendra Modi has become desperate after Phase 1 of the ongoing Lok Sabha polls, where he realised that the BJP will not win the expected number of seats, CM Siddaramaiah has said that the former has started making irresponsible, unconstitutional, and illogical statements in his rallies.

Addressing a Congress rally in Vijayapura on Friday, the CM said that Modi's remarks on Muslims and his opposition to reservations for Muslims are very appalling and also unconstitutional.

He said that Article 14 mentions equality for all, irrespective of caste, creed, and religion. "The same constitution also makes it amply clear that underprivileged Muslims also deserve reservation for socio-economic empowerment. This matter has been upheld, time and again by various committees in the past. Therefore, Modi cannot say that Muslims do not deserve reservation," the CM said. He said that since the PM has nothing to say about his achievements, he is raising only emotional issues to create a rift between people of different faiths.

'Gurantees will continue'

Taking a dig at the BJP for saying that the Congress government will withdraw the five guarantees after the Lok Sabha polls, the CM said his government will continue the schemes for five years.

He also accused the 25 BJP MPs of Karnataka of not raising matters concerning the state before the PM.

Action now shifts to 14 seats in North K'taka

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI
@ Bengaluru

WITH polling for 14 Lok Sabha seats, including Old Mysuru region, done and dusted on Friday, the political action now shifts to the remaining 14 seats in the northern part of the state.

It will be a straight fight between the Congress and BJP in most of the seats, except in Shivamogga, where former minister KS Eshwarappa has joined the fray, and Davanagere, where Vinaykumar, an educationist, could tilt the balance. Both hail from the Kuruba community. With no candidates in the contest, JDS will play a supporting role for alliance partner BJP.

Eshwarappa, who was suspended from the BJP, poses a challenge to former CM B S Yediyurappa's son and sitting MP B Y Vijayendra. Vinaykumar, who expected a Congress ticket, is likely to create trouble for Shamanur Shivashankarappa's daughter-in-law Prabha, wife of minister S S Mallikarjun. There are a number of big leaders whose prestige is at stake: former chief ministers Basavaraj Bommai in Haveri and Jagadish Shettar in Belagavi, and Union ministers Prahlad Joshi in Hubballi-Dharwad and Bhagawant Khuba in Bidar.

In Kalaburagi, AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge's son-in-law Radhakrishna Doddamani is testing the political waters. In Ballari, Congress has pitted Sandur MLA E Tukaram against former minister B Sriramulu.

Young leaders are taking on veterans: Mrinal Hebbalkar, son of Women and Child Welfare Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar, is up against Shettar in Belagavi, while Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre's son Sagar Khandre faces Khuba in Bidar. Anand Asuti is pitched against Joshi in Dharwad.

The 14 seats going for polls on May 7 are Bagalkot, Belgaum, Bidar, Bijapur, Chikkodi, Davanagere, Dharwad, Kalaburagi, Haveri, Ballari, Koppal, Raichur, Shimoga and Uttara Kannada.

I'm Basavanna's follower, says CM in Kalaburagi

RAMAKRISHNA BADSESHI
@ Kalaburagi

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah tried to influence disciples of 12th century social reformer Basaveshwara, telling them that he is the follower of Basavanna and is implementing the saint's principles with commitment.

Addressing an election meeting in Kalaburagi on Friday, he said Bidar district is the karma bhumi of Basavanna, who fought for equality of all. Most of Basavanna's principles have been included in the Constitution by Dr BR Ambedkar. "My government declared Basavanna the cultural leader of the state and issued orders to put his portrait in all government offices and government and aided schools. Tell me whether BS Yediyurappa or Basavaraj Bommai, who were chief ministers and claim themselves to be followers of Basaveshwara, declared Basavanna the cultural leader of the state."

He said, "Our five guarantees are on the lines of Basavanna's principle of helping the poor. We are giving rice to the poor, but the Modi government tried to put a hurdle in supplying free ice. Do you want such a person in power?"

He said, "People in this region should be grateful to Congress, especially president Mallikarjun Kharge, for bringing the amendment to Article 371 J which helped provide employment and higher education to the youth of seven districts in Kalyana-Karnataka. People should remember this and vote for Radhakrishna Doddamani."

BJP national president JP Nadda addresses a roadshow in Kalaburagi on Friday. BJP candidate for Gulbarga, Dr Umesh Jadhav, looks on | RAJU S KOASTI

Want 'majboot' or 'majboor' sarkar? Nadda asks voters

RAMAKRISHNA BADSESHI @ Kalaburagi

BJP National president JP Nadda addressed an election rally on Friday after a roadshow in Kalaburagi. Addressing the gathering, Nadda said the voters have two choices before them in the ongoing Lok Sabha elections. "Either you (voters) elect a majboot (strong) sarkar or a majboor (helpless) sarkar," Nadda said.The Union Government has proved its strength by conducting a surgical strike in Pakistan, abrogating Article 370, and successfully freeing Muslim women from Triple Talaq. "The previous Congress governments, however, bowed before Pakistan and separatists in Kashmir," he added. He also said the choice before the voters is either to elect a government that is clean or one that is corrupt. "Most I.N.D.I.A bloc leaders are either on bail or in jail for various scams," he said, adding that I.N.D.I.A bloc leaders have not spared land, water, and sky for their scams. Nadda listed out the achievements of the BJP government, saying that India has become strong economically. "Our country, which was importing many commodities, is now exporting not only food grains but also medicine," he elaborated.

"If the NDA comes to power, it will take steps to construct three crore houses for the poor in three years, provide medical treatment to all senior citizens above the age of 70 for major diseases up to Rs 5 lakh annually, and supply drinking water through taps to every house under the Jal Jeevan Mission," he said. Nadda asked the people to give rest to the Congress in the ongoing elections and re-elect the NDA government with a massive mandate.

DKS, HDK call each other cowards over alleged gift distribution

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE political slugfest between DCM DK Shivakumar and JDS state president HD Kumaraswamy continued on Friday and they called each other cowards.

Shivakumar campaigned for his younger brother and Congress candidate from the constituency DK Suresh, while Kumaraswamy for his brother-in-law Dr CN Manjunath, contesting on a BJP ticket.

Kumaraswamy alleged that Shivakumar distributed gift coupons to the electorate in the Bengaluru Rural Lok Sabha constituency in the night like a coward as he could not face the elections.

On Rs 10,000 coupons allegedly being distributed to voters, Shivakumar said, "At least they (rivals) are fearing us. Kumaraswamy should have contested elections in Bengaluru Rural. But he has run away to Mandya like a coward." Kumaraswamy retorted, "Ranahedi (a coward) is not me, but those who feared contesting the election. The person who went in the night and distributed gift coupons with QR codes to the people is talking about cowardice."

He said Rs 505, Male Mahadeshwara temple laddu and guarantee cards were distributed all night. Congress workers distributing the cards were stopped by JDS and BJP workers and it was brought to the notice of the deputy commissioner and election officers. "They did not take any action. Free and fair elections are not being held in Bengaluru Rural. " he charged.

Shivakumar said the party was only distributing 'manifesto cards'. "Kumaraswamy doesn't have any shame. He and Munirathna are giving out gold cards. We are only distributing our manifesto cards." On IT raids on Congress workers, Shivakumar said, "An IT official asked a Congress block leader to join BJP. They manhandled the wife and children of Suresh's driver. I will meet the DG to file a complaint."

Gowda slams Cong for manifesto promises

BR UDAYA KUMAR
@ Paduvalahippe (Hassan)

HITTING out at Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Mallikarjun Kharge for allegedly misleading people by releasing a bogus manifesto, JDS supremo HD Deve Gowda said on Friday that there is no sanctity for promises made.

He also questioned whether Rahul and Kharge are the PM or CM to make such promises. "They are only ordinary Congress members," he told reporters after voting.

Gowda also termed the guarantee card as "an ordinary pamphlet". The Congress has fooled poor people by distributing the pamphlet, fearing defeat, Gowda said, adding that the party had not released the pamphlet in Kerala, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh or any other state. "The pamphlet should have the signatures of the CM or his deputy, and educated people do not believe in such a manifesto," he said. Gowda also alleged the Congress had distributed the pamphlet with the aim of defeating JDS' HD Kumaraswamy and Prajwal Revanna. The JDS has lodged a complaint with the authorities concerned for misleading people, he added.

Takingexception to Kharge's statements in Kalaburagi that people can put mud and materials used for final rituals on his body instead of defeating the Congress candidate, he said there was no necessity to make such emotional statements at a public function.

VOTE WHILE THE SUN SHINES

With the summer at its peak, two voters come to a polling booth in Ramohalli under the shade of an umbrella, on Friday | VINOD KUMAR T

BURRRRRP

Voters flock to eateries in B'luru for free benne dosa, ghee laddu

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

IMMEDIATELY after voting, people flocked to hotels and restaurants providing complimentary meals to those who voted. From benne dosa and filter coffee, to mocktails, eateries baited voters with tempting offers, resulting in long queues of people waiting for free dosas and ghee laddus.

Nisarga Grand on Nrupatanga Road served about 6,700 customers with benne dosa, watermelon juice and ghee laddu. SP Krishnaraj, owner of the hotel, told *TNIE* that the restaurant had to get over 800kg of watermelon to supply juice. Voters waited patiently for their delicious dosa and fresh juice since 7.30am.

Customers at Nisarga Grand which gave away free benne dosa, watermelon juice and ghee laddu to voters on Friday

Malgudi Mylari Mane in Koramangala also promised Mylari dosa and filter coffee, and served about 1,200 dosas and cups of coffee. Customers began lining up at 8.30am, and the restaurant continued serving people until 5.30pm.

Cafe Udupi Ruchi in Rajajinagar provided complimentary mocktails and served more than 4,000 voters with refreshing mint lime juice and watermelon juice.

Pubs will be giving customers 20% discount on bills on Saturday, with special discounts for first-time voters, like Social, and a complimentary beer at Deck of Brews in Kadubeesanahalli.

I don't want to comment on the judgment or the judges. But after taking away the jobs of 26,000 youths, you are asking them to return the salary with 12% interest. Can you take jobs like that? How can 26,000 people be treated in such a way?

Mamata Banerjee, West Bengal Chief Minister

POLL PULSE

Interior hamlet in K'taka records 100% voting

Banjarumale, an interior hamlet in Belthangady taluk of Dakshina Kannda district, recorded 100 per cent voting in the second phase of Lok Sabha elections on Friday. This hamlet has 111 voters and each one of them turned up at the only polling booth, completing voting two hours before polling ended at 6 pm.

Man damages EVM with iron object in Nanded, detained

A 26-year-old man allegedly damaged an EVM by hitting it with an iron object when he came to cast his vote at a polling booth at Rampuri in Maharashtra's Nanded district on Friday. Police detained the man, who told them he wanted a pro-farmer and pro-labourer government.

Parties rush to ferry voters stranded in train derailment

Nearly 150 passengers, including many electors, heading to Assam's Barak Valley to cast their votes on Friday were stranded due to the derailment of a train engine, even as political parties sought immediate action to transport them to ensure they can exercise their franchise. Several trains were cancelled or rescheduled since Thursday after derailment of the engine of a goods train between Jatinga Lampur and New Harangajao stations under Lumding division.

ONE FOR THE ALBUM

Leaders cutting across political lines as well as commoners — men and women, young and old — line up outside booths to exercise their franchise

WIDE ANGLE

Villagers boycott polls over encroachment

Residents of a village in the Parbhani constituency of Maharashtra decided to boycott the elections on Friday to protest against the issue of encroachments, prompting the collector to visit the place. Parbhani Collector and returning officer Raghunath Gawde arrived at Balsa Khurd village, located around 7 km from Parbhani city, and interacted with villagers, urging them to vote. The village, which has 1,200 voters, had been raising the issue of encroachments for long.

Google marks phase 2 with voting symbol

Google marked the second phase of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections on Friday with a colourful doodle on its homepage of the inked index finger, which signals that a person has voted. Elections are being held across 88 seats in 13 states and Union Territories in the country. The Google Doodle by the American tech giant shows an index finger marked with indelible ink replacing the 'O' in the logo spelling out its name. The indelible purple ink is generally applied on the left-hand index finger of a voter to prevent duplication of voting. It has come to be recognised as a symbol of pride among voters.

(1-3) Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Congress MP Shashi Tharoor and TMC leader Sushmita Dev flash their fingers with the indelible ink; **(4)** A group of young voters in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh; **(5)** An elderly voter being carried by a family member in Meerut; **(6)** An 80-year-old woman after casting vote in Morigaon district of Assam; **(7)** Villagers on their way to the polling station in Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh; **(8)** Bru ethnic people at a special polling centre set up 170 km away from Tripura's Agartala; **(9)** Voters queue up to vote in Meerut; **(10)** Sanyasins wait in queue to cast votes in Mathura; **(11)** A woman shows her inked finger in Meerut; **(12)** Youth Congress president BV Srinivas and supporters arrive to the polling booth with LPG gas cylinder and utensils in Bengaluru **(13)** A newly-wed couple in Maharashtra's Washim | PTI

PM takes on Oppn over VVPAT order

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

AFTER the Supreme Court's judgment on electronic voting machines (EVMs), Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday asked the opposition INDIA bloc to apologise for "creating doubts" in their minds about the authenticity of these machines and demanding return to the ballot paper system.

The Supreme Court rejected the petitions for 100% verification of votes polled on EVMs with paper slips printed by the Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) machines.

Addressing a rally at Forbesganj in Araria district, Modi attacked the Congress and its ally RJD. "INDIA leaders have committed a sin by creating doubts among minds of people about EVMs. Supreme Court has

PM Narendra Modi and UP CM Yogi Adityanath at a rally in Bareilly | PTI

slapped on the face of Congress and RJD as the opposition wanted restoration of ballot paper system for holding election. They cannot look up after the SC order. We have 'Vjay Diwas' for democracy," he said.

"During the RJD-Congress regime in the state, there used to be booth capturing and loot of ballot papers but when an honest system of holding elections through EVMs was introduced, opposition started creating hindrances," the PM said.

Modi alleged that RJD, Congress and INDIA leaders had no care for democracy and the Constitution. "For decades, poor people were even prevented from reaching polling booths. Dreams of those intending to loot ballot boxes have been dashed. The entire world is applauding India for its robust democracy, election process and use of technology in the election process but people with vested interests are defaming the country's election system," he said.

Referring to 'jungle raj' allegedly prevailing during RJD-Congress regime, Modi said, "Land was grabbed for providing jobs and if somebody has job, his salary was also forcibly taken. Cars were grabbed and prosperous people were kidnapped during the previous RJD-Congress regime."

Addressing another rally, PM said Munger has suffered the most during the 'jungle raj' and was lauded under the NDA government led by Nitish Kumar.

The PM said INDIA model is centered around appeasement, but NDA's approach is focused on satisfaction. "We gave toilets, gas, electricity and water facilities to women. We gave free ration and medical treatment. We never asked anyone about their religion or caste... Anyone who has the right will get the benefits. This is true secularism and social justice," the Prime Minister said.

RALLIES IN MP

Shah triggers Sharia Vs UCC debate, says personal laws won't be allowed

Congress wants to bring Muslim personal law. Will we allow the country to be run by Sharia?

Amit Shah, HM

Home seat

Former CM Digvijaya Singh is fighting LS polls from his home constituency Rajgarh after a gap of 33 years

ANURAAG SINGH @ Bhopal

UNION Home Minister and BJP leader Amit Shah on Friday triggered a debate by reiterating his party's poll promise of implementing the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) across the country if the Modi regime got another term in power.

Claiming that Congress's manifesto mentions re-introducing personal laws, he said, "Personal law means they (Congress) want to bring Muslim personal law. Will we allow the country to be run by Sharia? Will the resumption of Triple Talaq be allowed? Till the BJP is in power, we won't allow personal law to return. This country will run according to the UCC in the spirit of its Constitution. We have already done it in Uttarakhand, and it will be done in the entire country. This is PM Modi's guarantee," Shah said.

The home minister hit the campaign trail in Madhya Pradesh's two high-profile constituencies, Guna and Rajgarh, earlier in the day.

While the BJP has fielded Union minister Jyotiraditya Scindia (four times MP in the seat with Congress ticket) in Guna, the party's second-time MP Rodmal Nagar will take on ex-CM Digvijaya Singh, fighting LS polls from the home constituency Rajgarh after 33 years. Both the seats will vote in the third phase on May 7.

Addressing a rally in Ashok Nagar of Guna, Shah praised Scindia. "I'm here to solicit votes for Jyotiraditya Scindia, my friend and BJP's senior leader."

QUOTE CORNER

They have snatched your jobs and failed to generate employment. The youth must think seriously about this, the BJP has ruined one-third of your lives. Without jobs, the future of the youth is dark and they are facing bleak marriage prospects

Akhilesh Yadav, SP president

After independence, the Nehru family which occupied the chair by ignoring Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel has been following divide and rule policy. It is apt to call it Italy Congress. You (Congress) were born for Italy and are dying for Italy

Kishan Reddy, Telangana BJP president

ANANTNAG-RAJOURI

Uncertainty looms as parties agree to disagree on holding polls

Request to EC

The EC has got representations from the Peoples Conference, BJP, Apni Party, J&K Nationalist People's Front, Advocate Mohammad Saleem Parray, and two independent candidates, to postpone the polls

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

UNCERTAINTY hangs heavy over the forthcoming Lok Sabha elections in the Anantnag-Rajouri constituency in Jammu and Kashmir.

The BJP, along with several other parties and two candidates, has petitioned the Election Commission of India (EC) seeking a postponement of the polls, citing accessibility concerns. However, J&K's two primary political entities, the National Conference and the PDP, have vehemently opposed any delay in polls, threatening legal action if they are deferred without considering the broader spectrum of opinions, including those not contesting the seat.

The EC has requested a report from J&K chief secretary Atal Dulloo and chief electoral officer PK Pole regarding the road and weather conditions, as well as other accessibility-related challenges pertaining to the Anantnag-Rajouri seat. The constituency, scheduled for polling in the third phase on May 7, has come under scrutiny following representations from various parties, including the Peoples Conference, BJP, Apni Party, J&K Nationalist People's Front, Advocate Mohammad Saleem Parray, and two independent candidates, expressing apprehensions about accessibility issues on the Mughal Road.

Surprisingly, neither the BJP nor the People's Conference has fielded any candidates in the seat. yet both have actively participated in the discourse, indirectly supporting the candidacy of Apni Party's Zaffar Manhas.

With 21 candidates in the fray, including prominent figures like PDP chief and former J&K CM Mehbooba Mufti, NC leader Mian Altaf, Apni Party's Zaffar Manhas, and Advocate Mohammad Parray of DPAP, the uncertainty surrounding the election's fate has intensified.

NC vice-president Omar Abdullah has urged the EC not to defer the polls, questioning the legitimacy of demands from parties not directly involved in the electoral process. He emphasized that the accessibility concerns raised regarding the Mughal Road are unsubstantiated, suggesting alternative routes are available.

EDITORIAL

"The question is not of right and left; the issue really is democracy versus totalitarianism" — Atal Bihari Vajpayee

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

US STAGFLATION FEAR MARS POSITIVE MARKET OUTLOOK FOR INDIA

AN unexpected slowdown in US GDP growth delivered a mini shocker for the markets this week. The world's largest economy's first-quarter growth fell behind estimates, rising at an annualised rate of 1.6 percent—lower than the consensus estimate of 2.5 percent and sharply behind the 3.4 percent increase seen in the previous quarter. Textbook theory dictates that such a sharp slowdown in economic activity warrants immediate interest rate cuts, but analysts are not expecting any monetary easing, anticipating a hotter-than-expected inflation number. It is this slow-growth-high-inflation combination—which economists call stagflation—that's a central banker's nightmare, worse than even a recession. But some believe that concerns about stagflation are premature as both the high inflation and slow growth appear to be an anomaly rather than a trend. In other words, even if interim data indicates otherwise, the overall trend is expected to remain positive.

This anticipation has been keeping markets cheerful despite the blips in data. A high inflation scenario is an indication of higher-for-longer rates narrative, but notwithstanding sticky prices, markets are pricing in rate cuts. If at the start of 2024 they expected at least three rate cuts, with the first in June, that prospect is now deferred; the number of expected cuts are down to at least one. Besides delaying monetary easing, high inflation is also causing a spike in US bond yields. On Thursday, the 10-year benchmark yield touched more than a five-month high at 4.72 percent after data showed a particular measure of inflation rose more than expected in the first quarter. Global crude oil prices, one of the key factors that could keep prices elevated, is also on the rise with some predicting it to touch $100 per barrel amid escalating tensions in the Middle East.

India continues to be the fastest growing emerging economy—economic activity is showing signs of broad-based growth, with the pace of private consumption and investments getting better. While rising bond yields could prompt foreign investors to reallocate their funds from riskier assets, potentially triggering capital outflows from domestic markets, equities are expected to adjust slightly lower but will remain supported by strong economic conditions and company earnings. The fallout of potential capital outflows can be mitigated if domestic growth drivers remain robust and inflation is under control.

WRONG MESSAGE IN L-G'S KERALA CHURCH PARLEYS

DELHI Lieutenant-Governor V K Saxena's sudden visit to Kerala, just ahead of polling in the state, was odd enough to raise suspicions. He sought meetings with the heads of various churches and met a couple of them, triggering speculation that the visit was linked to the elections. Considering how the BJP has been aggressively wooing Christians in a desperate bid to achieve an electoral breakthrough in the state, the suspicion was but natural. The Congress took objection, choosing to call the meetings "intimidation tactics" ahead of the polls. The party then approached the Election Commission, accusing Saxena of violating the model code and seeking action against him for trying to "garner votes for the BJP".

Saxena's office sought to dismiss the speculation with the explanation that it was a personal visit—to participate in a hospital function on an invitation—and that he has been frequently visiting Kerala. It's hardly convincing, mainly for two reasons. One, the timing—he arrived Wednesday, just when the Lok Sabha campaign in Kerala was winding up and the last-minute luring of voters was on. Two, he wanted to meet only the heads of Christian churches and, more significantly, all of them. Whatever the nature of his visit, there is no denying that the L-G is an appointee of the Union government and his actions can be linked, loosely or otherwise, to the intentions of the party in power at the Centre.

However, what is admirable is that though Saxena was able to meet some church heads, most refused to give him an audience. The office of the Archbishop of Latin Archdiocese of Thiruvananthapuram, Thomas J Netto, clearly said such a meeting on election eve would send confusing signals. Cardinal Baselios Cleemis, Major Archbishop of Syro-Malankara Catholic Church, also sent out a similar message. The Syro-Malabar Church, whose head Major Archbishop Raphael Thattil and former head Major Archbishop Emeritus George Alencherry met Saxena, clarified that the visit was not political and that the church does not follow the wishes of any political party. It is undeniable that elections should be devoid of interventions that hamper the exercise of the voters' free will. Developments such as this send out the wrong message. The meetings should have been avoided in the interest of preserving the credibility of the ongoing electoral process.

QUICK TAKE

CORRAL RESOURCES FOR FISHERFOLK

THE revelation that half the corals in the Gulf of Mannar biosphere have bleached from heat stress is a major warning. When the water is too warm, corals expel algae and turn white. The US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association says about a third of bleached corals around the world eventually died over the last decade. This affects marine ecology and the littoral fishers who depend on it. Fisherfolk around the country are facing distress as warmer waters and increasing pollution are eating into their catch. It's time for the government to set up a national mission to help fishers in collaboration with the coastal states.

L K Advani's hard work made the BJP's rise possible. He recognised religion's place deep in the Indian psyche, but embraced inter-faith harmony in service of the nation

MY NEIGHBOUR WHO ENVISIONED ANOTHER INDIA

K M CHANDRASEKHAR

Former Cabinet Secretary and author of *As Good as My Word: A Memoir*

SOURAV ROY

IN the last four years of my rather long career in the civil services, I had the good fortune, as Cabinet Secretary, to live in a Lutyens bungalow on Prithviraj Road in Delhi. Occupying the very next bungalow was the redoubtable L K Advani, who played a significant role in the revival of the BJP as a party. I met him invariably on festive occasions, presented him with a bouquet, sat down and conversed over tea. I was always conscious that I was in the presence of a great personality, a man who was a part of Indian history.

In 2011, my tenure ended and I went to Advani's house to bid farewell. As usual, he was the epitome of courtesy. As I left him, he gave me his book, *My Country, My Life*, and said to me, "*Main bus itna kehna chahta hoon, aap jahaan bhi raho, swasth raho aur khush raho* (I only wish to say, wherever you are, be happy, be healthy)."

Advani's role in the BJP was that of the great organiser. When the party was virtually wiped out by the Rajiv Gandhi electoral tsunami in 1984, it was left to him to rebuild it brick by brick. He was the man who gave it a new aggressive outlook with his Rath Yatra from Somnath to Ayodhya, which gave the party mass appeal that transcended religion.

Advani believes in "genuine secularism", but he does not accept that Indian people can be separated from religion, which plays such a massive part in their lives. The masses who joined his yatra until it was stopped in Bihar taught him the lesson that, no matter how our Constitution is interpreted, religion resides deep in their psyche. He writes in his book, "Recalling what Swami Vivekananda had said about the place of religion in India's national life, I realised that if this religiosity were to be channelled in a positive direction, it could unleash tremendous energy for national reconstruction."

In an appendix to his book, he quotes Vivekananda again. The great Vedantin said in 1898, "We want to lead mankind to the place where there is neither the Veda nor the Bible nor the Koran; yet this has to be done by harmonising the Vedas, the Bible and the Koran. Mankind ought to be told that religions are the varied expressions of The Religion, which is Oneness, so that each may choose the path that suits him best." In reply to a question asked at a conclave, Advani said he had discussed the Hindu domination question with M S Golwalkar in the distant past. Golwalkar had told him the country would have to accommodate diversity and could never be a theocracy.

This, in short, encapsulates Advani's view of secularism. All religions must be harmoniously brought together for the nation's greater good. It is not distancing government from the reality of religion, for religion plays a significant role in the minds and hearts of humankind. Nor is religion to be used as an instrument of political oppression or to return to the colonial paradigm of 'divide and rule'. Divisions may make it easier to rule or to gain temporary electoral benefit. But it will cause incalculable harm to the nation, make it more fragile, and lead in time to a dictatorship.

The Ram temple at Ayodhya came upfront in BJP's manifestos only after Advani's hugely successful Rath Yatra. In his book, he wrote, "We in the BJP had all along declared that our goal was to construct the Ram temple at Ram *janmabhoomi* after respectfully relocating the mosque structure, and that we would like to achieve this either by a due process of law or through an amicable settlement between the Hindu and Muslim communities. However, as it turned out, we could not live by our word. The credibility of the entire movement was undermined by those who took the law in their own hands on 6 December. It is in this sense that I felt, and I continue to feel so, that our entire movement suffered a setback on that day."

Today, as more mosques are sought to be pulled down in northern India, it is necessary to remember that the country cannot flourish without its religions and that each such act of demolition, with or without judicial sanction, will inflict further wounds on Indian society.

The RSS taught Advani discipline, which he cherished throughout his life. Speaking to the Brahmakumaris in 2017, he said, "I believe there are several good organisations in India, and the RSS is one of them. I am proud of it because I have got my education from the RSS as also qualities of discipline, honesty and idealism."

At the zenith of his power and mass appeal in the mid-1990s, when he was president of the BJP, the position of prime minister was his for the asking when the BJP came to power. Yet he made it clear that Vajpayee would occupy that position, as he was older than Advani, senior in the party, wiser, and more knowledgeable than him. When the chance arose in 2014, the same party put him in cold storage. The man he had saved from the wrath of PM Vajpayee in 2002 after the Gujarat riots took his place. Seniority and age did not count.

The chapter relating to the Emergency is one of the most poignant in his book. He was incarcerated first in the Bengaluru central jail, where Vajpayee cooked for him and other party leaders. When he was released after court intervention, he was immediately rearrested and sent to the Rohtak jail.

Advani wrote that the signs of creeping autocracy were visible even two years earlier, when Jayaprakash Narayan had started his movement. He quotes with approval the last paragraph of the Shah Commission report, "If the administrative machinery in our country is to be rendered safe for our children, the services must give a better account of themselves by standing up for the basic values of an honest and efficient administration." This is an eternal truth, as relevant today as it was then.

(Views are personal)
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WHY AUTHORITARIANISM FAILS TO WORRY THE INDIAN VOTER

PRATIK KANJILAL

For years, the author has been speaking easy to a surprisingly tolerant public

SPEAKEASY

IT is generally agreed that the BJP will win the election and the INDIA bloc will be rendered irrelevant. The debate is limited to the margin of the BJP's victory, with supporters claiming a two-thirds majority and detractors conceding a simple majority. Reasonably, the BJP may be expected to lower its tally. But the rise of the party has not been based on reason, so this is just another wild surmise among many enlivening a boring election with a foregone conclusion. Among these is the idea of the opposition fading away. The future of India's unique democracy remains undecided, despite the prowess of the "juggernaut", the term beloved of Modi's hagiographers.

INDIA gets bad press because its seams remain visible. It cannot completely close ranks, as the Opposition did during Jayaprakash Narayan's movement and in the V P Singh era. But is grand unification a reasonable expectation today? The opposition parties are regional and strongly focused on local issues, like the DMK in Tamil Nadu and the TMC in West Bengal. Can parties representing populations that see themselves as culturally or historically unique, and that pointedly stand apart from the north Indian mainstream, be expected to integrate seamlessly? Their strength is that they are agents of diversity united by opposition to BJP, perfect foils to Modi's suffocating promotion of one India, one people, one culture and one election.

The notion of opposition unity is dated. It's from the eighties and nineties, when newspapers used to feature an index of opposition unity. Today, one looks forward to an index of political unity in diversity, as the Modi era taught us yet again that overwhelming superiority of one party or politician is problematic. Monopolies of power inspire suspicion more than ever before.

Besides, criticism of INDIA is not really about the idea of the bloc, but mostly about tactical shortcomings like confusion about seat sharing and lack of an obvious general, a natural and articulate leader focused on winning. Neither Rahul Gandhi nor Mallikarjun Kharge fit the bill. They speak of saving democracy, an abstract goal, without quite being able to explain the implications for the ordinary voter.

Back in 2008, the CPI(M) had withdrawn support to the Manmohan Singh government and then spent the 2009 campaign explaining to bemused rural voters the intricacies of the India-US nuclear deal, over which the party had parted with the UPA. The present predicament of the Congress is similar. It is preaching to voters who seem to be indifferent to the looming threat of authoritarianism. Perhaps this is because the lower socio-economic strata have always lived under arbitrary authorities with absolute power. It's a novelty only to prosperous people and the upper castes.

AP

At these polls, opposition leaders are speaking of saving democracy without being able to explain the implications to ordinary folks. Voters seem indifferent to the threat of authoritarianism, perhaps because large sections have always lived under arbitrary authorities with absolute power

But the INDIA bloc also keeps alive issues of mass unease, like the advantages the BJP is giving to large corporations, which are in turn its electoral funders. It is channelling old suspicions about big money. The accumulation of capital is perceived to be sinful in most Indian communities. Businessmen like Ghanshyam Das Birla and Jamnalal Bajaj extended crucial support to the freedom movement helmed by Gandhi, but the Nehruvian socialism that followed, the rise of left labour movements and the punitive taxation of the rich by Indira Gandhi made owners of big businesses inimical to politics. The sentiment has survived liberalisation, the tide that was supposed to lift all boats, and can only become stronger as the gap between the very rich and the rest widens.

INDIA also keeps economic issues like unemployment, underemployment and the exit of exhausted job-seekers from the market a live issue, while the government promotes welfare schemes in the PM's name to keep the electorate reassured. It remains to be seen if in the long term, people remain comfortable receiving handouts that reduces their financial independence. Meanwhile, farmers remain restive about financial prospects, and the heat wave that coincides with this election will make it difficult for the BJP to increase job creation and hold down food inflation.

Hunted by the taxman and central agencies, the opposition also keeps the spotlight trained on their political role. Coupled with the revelations about electoral bonds, a picture of organised extortion has emerged. The public is generally indifferent to corruption, but only until they are personally affected, like when the legislators they elect are threatened and lured into changing sides. The constituent parties of INDIA keep public attention on this, while the BJP's machinery keeps voters fascinated by the food habits of the opposition.

The talk of 370 seats for the BJP is no more real than the 56-inch metric of the PM. And talk of INDIA turning into vapour is no more credible either. Its constituent parties will continue to exist because they represent local concerns and the grouping will exist because they have no option but to hang together. The BJP will remain in power, but over time, it will become clear that the Ram temple is its only unique offering. The opposition does welfare just as well, or even better. And it has redeeming qualities of respecting the Constitution and the diversity it mandates. For people who think enlightened self-interest means a temple, good luck to them.

(Views are personal)
(Tweets @pratik_k)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Equal rights

Ref: *The fraying frame of Muslim political representation* (Apr 26). No law is required to extend preferential treatment to minorities in a democratic country. As the author rightly said, democracy follows the principles of equal individual rights and equal group rights. When one group suppresses another, democracy should support the suppressed by taking necessary action following the principles of equity.
Jayachandran C, Chennai

Not polarising

'*Sabka saath, sabka vikas*' does not in any way promote polarisation. The prime minister's welfare schemes are for everyone. It was already in practice, but not as effective as it is now.
Ravi Nair, Palakkad

Consequential promises

Ref: *Heated quota fights will cleave, not heal* (Apr 26). All political parties are making unnecessary proclamations favoring sectoral groups to get votes. But they are unaware of the consequences of implementing these promises. The reservation clause in the Constitution itself was a short-term arrangement considering the social condition prevalent at that time.
Saranneya V, Thrikkunnapuzha

Card discredit

Ref: *17K credit cards issued to wrong customers: ICICI* (Apr 26). It is really shocking that a premiere private sector bank like the ICICI has issued 17,000 credit cards to undeserving customers, throwing caution to the wind. There seem to be some dishonest intentions for such gross blunders. The culprits must be punished as per law after due investigations.
Katuru Durga Prasad Rao, Hyderabad

Spice spoilers

Ref: *Masala recall again exposes failing quality control* (Apr 24). India is the world's largest producer of spices. We want this name to be maintained in a healthy way. It is sad that spice producers can do this to their own country and cause damage to the fame of Indian spices around the world.
K Jaya Lakshmi, Tenkasi

Domestic affairs

The Ministry of External Affairs rightly said we are judged by what we do at home, not what we say abroad. In every democracy, there is a provision for protest, but it depends on the rule of law. It should and will be handled by the governments in place. Commenting on others' internal matters will not only become irrelevant but also obnoxious at times. Let countries sort out their own issues.
S P Murali, Davanagere

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Mallikarjun Kharge @kharge
OBC reservation was first implemented by Congress in Karnataka with efforts of Indira Gandhi, but PM is making baseless statements and making false allegations.

Aaditya Thackeray @AUThackeray
In states that go for the polls today, please step out and vote. Vote to protect our Constitution the rights and duties it assigns to us all.

Yashwant Sinha @YashwantSinha
I have watched PM's since Nehru's time and worked closely with two. Never before have I seen a PM descend so low as the present one.

After FIR, CBI raids Sandeshkhali

Foreign-made weapons, ammunition seized as part of probe into attack on ED officials

The CBI during its probe got inputs of a large cache of arms hidden in Sandeshkhali. On Friday morning, a CBI team started a search operation during which the arms, including foreign-made pistols, were seized

An official

ED team attacked

The ED team was attacked by a mob of around 1,000 people in Sandeshkhali, a riverine delta bordering the Sundarbans, on January 5 when they had gone to raid the premises of Sheikh in connection with an alleged ration scam, said official.

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

A day after registering an FIR against five accused in a case linked to land grab and sexual assault on women, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Friday conducted raids at multiple locations in West Bengal's Sandeshkhali and recovered foreign-made weapons and a large cache of ammunition, officials in the agency said.

The officials, however, told this newspaper that the raids were conducted as part of the agency's probe into a case of an attack on an Enforcement Directorate team by a mob allegedly instigated by local TMC leader Shajahan Sheikh.

Giving details of the recoveries during the raids, officials said the CBI team seized three foreign-made revolvers and one foreign-made pistol, one Indian revolver, one Colt official issue police revolver, one country-made pistol, 120 nine mm bullets, 50 cartridges of .45 calibre, 120 nine mm cartridges, 50 cartridges of .380 and eight cartridges of .32.

The ED team was attacked by a mob of around 1,000 people in Sandeshkhali, a riverine delta bordering the Sundarbans, on January 5 when they had gone to raid the premises of Sheikh in connection with an alleged ration scam. One ED official sustained injury in the attack and their vehicle was damaged.

The officials said that the CBI during its probe got inputs of a large cache of arms hidden in Sandeshkhali. "On Friday morning, a CBI team started a search operation during which the arms, including foreign-made pistols, were seized," a senior official said.

On the orders of the Calcutta High Court, the central agency had registered three FIRs related to the incident of attack on ED officials on January 5. Sheikh was arrested by the West Bengal Police on February 29 in connection with the attack.

After the attack, a deputy director of the agency had given a complaint to the superintendent of police, Basirhat.

Bengal govt moves SC against HC order on CBI probe into land grab and sexual assault

The actions of the state government have been overlooked, while the political voices have been given supremacy in a court proceeding, which vitiates the matter at hand

Petition

Erroneous order

West Bengal government in its petition said that the HC order was erroneous on the face of it, as the larger issue relating to the case was being investigated by the state police.

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY @ New Delhi

THE West Bengal government on Friday moved the Supreme Court challenging the Calcutta High Court's April 10 order directing a thorough CBI (Central Bureau of Investigation) probe into the allegations of land grabbing and sexual assault in Sandeshkhali.

A two-judge bench of Justices B R Gavai and Sandeep Mehta would hear the appeal on April 29. In its April 10 order, the Calcutta High Court had dealt a blow to the Mamata government by ordering a CBI probe into the Sandeshkhali case. It had said that the investigation would be monitored by itself.

The WB government in its Special Leave Petition (SLP) said that the HC order was erroneous on the face of it, as the larger issue relating to the case was being investigated by the state police.

"The actions of the state government in the present matter have been completely overlooked, while the political voices have been given supremacy in a court proceeding, which not only vitiates the matter at hand, but further will lead to biased investigation," the Special Leave Petition read.

The HC heavily relies on the Report of National Commission for Scheduled Tribes and numerous affidavits of alleged victims to pass the directions, whereas the said Report is not conclusive as the State is permitted to file its objections against the Report," it added.

"The said directions by the HC, are unwarranted and not sustainable in the eyes of law and should be quashed by the SC," the West Bengal government said in its appeal filed in the top court.

Edu ministry asks CBSE to hold board exams twice a yr

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

KEEPING logistical challenges in mind, the Union Education Ministry has asked the CBSE to work out the modalities of holding board exams for Class 10 and 12 twice a year from the 2025-26 academic session, official sources said Friday.

"We have asked the CBSE to work out the modalities of holding board exams twice a year," the source said.

"We also plan to hold wider consultations with CBSE-affiliated school principals in May. There are 28,000 CBSE schools. We will invite 100 of them (school principals) and ask the rest to join online," the official sources said. However, the plan to introduce a semester system has been ruled out.

In the meeting with school principals, the ministry and CBSE will discuss the modalities and seek suggestions on how best to take the proposal forward, which was announced under the new curriculum framework (NCF).

"There are logistical challenges in holding the exams twice a year. It is a tiresome process and needs to be discussed. The CBSE is currently brainstorming on the logistics issue," the officials said.

"We are exploring the idea of conducting two editions of the board exams, at the end of the year from the 2025-26 academic session, but the modalities still need to be worked out. However, there is no plan to implement the semester system," the source added.

Academic calendar

Officials said they are also working out the modalities on how best to organise the academic calendar so that another set of board exams for Class 12 could be conducted without impacting the undergraduate admission schedule. The NCF was prepared by the Union government-appointed national steering company in line with the NEP 2020 and proposed a semester system for students.

Officials said they are also working out the modalities on how best to organize the academic calendar so that another set of board exams for class 12 could be conducted without impacting the undergraduate admission schedule.

The NCF was prepared by the Union government-appointed national steering company in line with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and proposed a semester system for students of classes 11 and 12. Former ISRO chairman K. Kasturirangan led the NCF.

It also proposed holding board exams twice a year to ensure students have enough time and opportunity to perform well. Earlier, the initial plan was to introduce biannual board exams from the 2024-25 academic session. But it was pushed back by a year.

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan announced in March that students will have the option of appearing for class 10 and 12 board examinations twice a year from the academic session 2025-26. Pradhan also said that appearing for board exams twice a year won't be mandatory for students.

The board exams for classes 10 and 12 were conducted twice during the COVID-19 pandemic as a one-time measure. The old format of holding it once at the year-end was resumed this year."

Previous efforts to reform board exams, such as the implementation of Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) for Class 10 in 2009, were made. However, it was rescinded in 2017, and the board returned to the traditional format of year-end exams.

THE PAPER TRAIL MACHINES

The Conduct of Election Rules, **1961** amended in 2013 to introduce VVPAT machines

First used in the bypoll to Noksen assembly seat in Nagaland

At least one ballot unit, one control unit and one VVPAT make up for an EVM

Tentative cost of an EVM comprised **₹7,900** per ballot unit, **₹9,800** per control unit and **₹16,000** per VVPAT

SINCE 2019
VVPAT slips from five randomly selected polling stations per assembly constituency (or segment in case of Lok Sabha seats) matched with the EVM count for greater transparency

As an elector votes for a candidate on the ballot unit, he/she can see a slip with the candidate's party symbol on a small window on the VVPAT unit for **7** seconds; the slip then drops into a basket

The voter cannot carry the VVPAT slip home

VVPAT, the ballot unit and the control unit are manufactured by two PSUs - Electronics Corporation of India Ltd and Bharat Electronics Ltd

COURT MANDATE

SC directed to seal and secure all SLUs of VVPAT machines, for the symbol loading process to be done on or after **MAY 1, 2024**

These SLUs should be sealed and secured in containers with the sign of the candidates or their representatives

The SLUs shall be stored in the strong rooms along with the EVMS for a period of at least **45** days after the declaration of the results

SYMBOL LOADING UNITS The Symbol Loading Unit (SLU) is a small device that loads information of the candidates into the VVPAT machine ahead of the polls. The SLU is first connected to a computer to download files with the names and symbols

SC issues notice to EC on petition seeking repoll if NOTA gets majority

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY @ New Delhi

THE Supreme Court on Friday served a notice on the Election Commission of India (ECI) on motivational speaker Shiv Khera's PIL seeking a direction to declare an election "null and void" if maximum votes from the constituency are polled for "None of The Above" (NOTA).

After hearing lawyer Gopal Sankaranarayanan appearing for Khera, a bench led by CJI DY Chandrachud said a notice would be served on the EC. "This is about the electoral process. Let us see what the election commission has to say on this," he said.

Sankaranarayanan cited the recent Surat example, where no election was held as there was only one BJP candidate who won unopposed.

Khera, an author and activist, in his Public Interest Litigation (PIL), sought a direction to the respondent, ECI, to frame rules to the effect that if NOTA gets a majority, the election in the particular constituency shall be declared null and void and a fresh polling conducted.

According to sources in the court and registry staff, the matter was related to election petition, and as the election is presently underway at various places across the country, so most likely the plea would be taken up for hearing within a week or so.

Khera sought that the ECI should frame rules on the aspect that if the candidates who got fewer votes than NOTA shall stand debarred from contesting all elections for five years. The ECI should direct the respondent, ECI, to ensure proper and efficient reporting publicity of NOTA as a "fictional candidate".

In his plea, Khera said he approached the apex court as the ECI has failed to regard NOTA as a valid candidate which in a democratic form of governance is essential since NOTA is not merely a citizen not voting but is actually a valid selection.

He added that while the court had an idealistic approach in adopting NOTA in the electoral system, the state ECs utilising their power in the Constitution of India, 1950, have turned that idealistic thought into reality.

What has begun from the Panchayat and Municipal polls in four states should be implemented uniformly at all levels.

ALSO IN TOP COURT

SC seeks reply on cutting of trees

The Supreme Court sought response from the Centre and the Maharashtra government on a plea against the permission granted to the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited for cutting of 11,600 trees to lay underground pipelines from its refinery in Chembur to Raigad. Senior advocate alleged that the mangroves were being destroyed.

Show-cause notice to AIFF president

The Supreme Court on Friday issued a show cause notice to All India Football Federation president Kalyan Chaubey for seeking adjournments in an election petition pending before the Calcutta High Court and said he was adopting "delaying tactics". The seat fell vacant after the demise of TMC MLA Sadhan Pandey in 2022.

Need for zero tolerance towards terrorism, says defence secy at SCO meet

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

INDIA on Friday emphasised the need to adopt a "zero-tolerance approach" towards terrorism in all its forms for development of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) member states, officials said. Defence Secretary **Giridhar Aramane** put forth New Delhi's stand in this regard as he participated in the SCO defence ministers' meeting in Astana, Kazakhstan.

"The defence secretary reiterated India's steadfast commitment towards maintaining peace, stability and security in the SCO region," the ministry of defence said in a statement. "He emphasised the need to adopt a zero-tolerance approach towards terrorism in all its forms for prosperity and development of the SCO member states," MoD said.

"Giridhar Aramane mentioned about India's long-standing proposal of Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism at the United Nations. He also highlighted the concept of Security and Growth for All in the Region' (SAGAR), proposed by India for the Indo-Pacific," it said. The SCO is an eight-member economic and security bloc established in 2001. India and Pakistan joined it as full-time members in 2017. The group's founding members include China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

Aramane led the Indian delegation for the annual meeting of the defence ministers of SCO member states. During the meeting, a protocol was signed by the defence ministers.

Aramane will also hold meetings with defence ministers of the friendly countries of the SCO to discuss issues of bilateral defence cooperation, the statement said.

NMC to hold online survey to assess mental health of medical students

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

CONCERNED with the rising number of suicides and depression cases among medical students, the National Medical Commission (NMC) on Friday announced that they will conduct an online survey to assess their mental well-being.

The NMC had earlier constituted a national task force on the mental health and well-being of medical students.

About 122 medical students — including 64 MBBS and 58 postgraduate students — committed suicide in last five years.

Taking a step ahead, the task force decided to conduct an online survey of medical students as well as the faculty in medical colleges, said a public notice issued by Aujender Singh, deputy secretary of the Post-Graduate Medical Education Board (PGMEB) and member secretary of the national task force.

Sharing a Google form link for feedback, the notice said that all the medical students and faculties of the medical colleges are requested to submit their responses by May 3.

The identity of the participants will be kept confidential and will not be shared with anyone. It will be used by the task force only for analysis and recommendations in its report, the notice further said.

The NMC said that the data collected from the survey will be used for research and analysis. Individual responses will not be shared publicly, it said.

Meanwhile, a disclaimer in the survey says, "We have taken appropriate measures to ensure the security of the data collected in this survey. However, please be aware that no method of transmission over the internet or electronic stores is 100 per cent secure."

The move was hailed by medical associations. "Much appreciated move by NMC," said Aviral Mathur, president of Federation of Resident Doctors' Association (FORDA).

"A much-needed initiative to address the burning issue of Mental Health amongst medical graduates and postgraduates. Wheels are turning, we will fight and defeat this demon of mental stress, TOGETHER! (sic)," FORDA posted on X.

"It is a much stronger move by NMC to address the mental issues of medical students and faculty," said Dr Rishiraj Sinha, national secretary of Federation of All India Medical Association.

Reservoir levels dip to 10-yr low in South India

JITENDRA CHOUBEY @ New Delhi

SOUTHERN India faces a grim situation as water in reservoirs dips to a 10-year low.

India's ongoing general election campaign coincides with an excruciatingly hot summer season, compounded by a serious water crisis, especially in Southern India.

Major reservoirs in the region hold less water compared to the previous year, during the corresponding time of 2023, and the storage level is even lower than the average storage of the last ten years during the corresponding period.

According to the latest data from the Central Water Commission (CWC) released on Friday , Southern India faces a water crisis as reservoir levels plunge to just 17% capacity. The storage during the corresponding period last year was 29%, and the average storage of the last ten years during the corresponding period was 23% of the live storage capacity of these reservoirs. The Southern region has 43 reservoirs, which include the states of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu.

As per the latest CWC data, the current water level is 82% of the corresponding time in 2023 in the country's 150 reservoirs. Last year, there were 64.775 billion cubic meters (BCM) in 150 major water reservoirs, while this year, it is 53.775 BCM as of April 25, 2024. The current water level is 96% higher than the average of the last 10 years. The average of the last 10 years of live storage is 55.523 BCM. Besides the Southern region, water in Western and Central India reservoirs has a larger deficit of live storage capacity compared to the North and Eastern regions' reservoirs.

In the Northern region, there is a slightly lower water level than the corresponding period last year and is also less than the average storage of the last ten years during the corresponding period.

In the Eastern region, storage during the current year is better than the corresponding period last year and is also better than the average storage of the last ten years during the corresponding period.

Meanwhile, meteorologists foresee the water crisis as temporary, with the El Nino climatic phenomenon nearing its end, while the La Nina phenomenon is expected to bring bountiful southwest monsoon rainfall during June-September.

El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) or El Nino is a climate pattern that describes the unusual warming of surface waters in the eastern Pacific Ocean. It is synonymous with the weakening of the Indian southwest monsoon. La Nina is the cyclic counterpart to El Nino, known for cool phases of a recurring climate pattern across the tropical Pacific, causing good rainfall in India.

REGIONWISE STORAGE POSITION

Region	Designed capacity	2023	2024
North (HP, Punjab, Rajasthan)	19.66*	7.47	6.26
Eastern (Jharkhand, Orissa, WB, Tripura)	20.43	7.02	7.89
Western (Gujarat, Maharashtra)	37.13	14.21	11.77
Central (UP, Uttarakhand, MP, Chhattisgarh)	48.23	20.64	18.57
Southern (AP, Telangana, Kerala, Karnataka, TN)	53.07	15.44	8.87
Country as a whole	178.78	64.78	53.36

*All figures in billion cubic metres

Source: Central Water Commission, 25 April 2024

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	39	24	Mumbai	33	26
Bhopal	36	22	Panaji	33	25
Jaipur	37	24	Patna	38	24
Amritsar	34	18	Lucknow	37	20
Chennai	34	28	Port Blair	32	26
Kolkata	31	25	Imphal	29	18
Srinagar	23	08	Chandigarh	36	18

POLL FEVER GATHERS PACE

Compared to the first phase on April 19, the second round shows a sign of improvement in terms of polling percentage. Though the percentage was below the 2019 Lok Sabha elections. In this phase, Uttar Pradesh, which sends highest 80 lawmakers to Parliament, polled the lowest with 53% against the national avarage of 64%. Rajasthan, where the polling for all the 25 seats are over, recorded 64%, while all the 20 constituencies in Kerala registered a polling percentage of 65%. Tripura again topped the list of turnout with 79%, followed by West Bengal with 72%. This newspaper takes a look at the polling in 88 Lok Sabha seats across 12 states and one Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

OVERALL TURNOUT 65.7%

UTTAR PRADESH

The second phase polling percentage plummeted further as around 53.3% voters turned up at polling booths across eight constituencies of western Uttar Pradesh on Friday. The voting percentage in the corresponding phase was 62.76% in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections. The lack of enthusiasm among electors was visible since morning, as only 11.67% polling was registered till 9am, which was 12.66% in the first phase on April 19. The trend of low voter turnout continued in all five rounds throughout the day. However, the polling went on peacefully without any untoward incident during the second phase on Friday. The seats, which went to vote included Amorha, Meerut, Baghpat, Ghaziabad, Gautam Buddh Nagar, Bulandshahr, Aligarh and Mathura. According to official figures released by EC at 8 pm, the estimated turnout in Amroha was (62.36 %), Meerut (55.49%), Baghpat (53.69 %), Ghaziabad (48.21 %), Gautam Buddha Nagar (52.46%), Bulandshahr (54.34%), Aligarh (56.62%) and Mathura (47.45 %). The steepest dip was recorded in Mathura (12.15%) and Baghpat (10.99%), followed by Meerut (8.8%), Amroha (8.69%), Bulandshahr (8.58%), Gautam Buddha Nagar (8.03%), Ghaziabad (7.11%) and Aligarh (5.06%). Meanwhile, in the evening Prime Minister Narendra Modi led a roadshow in Bareilly, waving to the big audience that had gathered along the route. Standing on a saffron-coloured vehicle decked with flowers, Modi raised an illuminated 'lotus' symbol and waved it at the crowd, many of whom were holding "Abki Baar 400 Paar" signs.

RAJASTHAN

In Rajasthan, 13 seats witnessed a turnout of over 64% by 9 pm, marking an increase of 6% compared to the first phase. Polling in closely contested constituencies was higher. The Barmer constituency recorded the highest turnout at 73.68%, followed by Banswara at 72.24%. Other constituencies recording significant voter participation include Kota (70.82%), Jhalawar-Baran (68.72%), Chittorgarh (67.83%), Jodhpur (63.30%), Udaipur (64.01%), Jalore (62.28%), Bhilwara (60.10%), Pali (56.80%), Ajmer (59.22%), Rajsamand (58.01%), and Tonk-Sawai Madhopur (56%). The second phase of elections witnessed the fate of veteran leaders such as Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Om Birla, Kailash Chaudhary, CP Joshi, and Vaibhav Gehlot being sealed in EVMs. The voting process was not without its share of controversies. Barmer-Jaisalmer constituency garnered attention following an alleged assault on the Congress candidate at Thumbali polling station, leading to accusations exchanged between MLA Harish Chaudhary and candidate Ravindra Singh Bhati. Incidents of clashes were reported from various locations, including a confrontation between Baytu MLA Harish Chaudhary and IG Vikas Kumar, as well as BJP candidate Sukhbir Singh Jaunapuriya's protest against alleged fake voting in Tonk constituency. Disruptions occurred during the polling process, with instances of violence reported, including an altercation with a constable recording at a polling booth in Pipar, Jodhpur, and scuffles involving Abhimanyu Singh, son of Congress candidate Karan Singh Uchiyarda, in Jodhpur.

TOP FIVE CONSTITUENCIES WITH HIGH VOTER TURNOUT

TRIPURA EAST (TRIPURA)	79.46%
OUTER MANIPUR (MANIPUR)	76.06%
KANKER (CHHATTISGARH)	73.84%
DARRANG-UDALGURI (ASSAM)	72.99%
BALURGHAT (WEST BENGAL)	72.30%

BOTTOM FIVE CONSTITUENCIES WITH LOW VOTER TURNOUT

MATHURA (UTTAR PRADESH)	49.29%
BHAGALPUR (BIHAR)	48.63%
GHAZIABAD (UTTAR PRADESH)	49.16%
BANKA (BIHAR)	50.00%
GAUTAM BUDDH NAGAR (UTTAR PRADESH)	52.46%

TOTAL NUMBER OF ELECTORS	15.88 CRORE
MEN	8.08 CR
WOMEN	7.80 CR
POLLING STATIONS	1.67 L

WEBCASTING DONE IN OVER 1 LAKH POLLING STATIONS

In phase 2, voters from **46 villages** in Bastar and Kanker parliamentary constituencies in Chhattisgarh cast their votes in a polling booth set up in their own village for the first time in a Lok Sabha election. With these, the total in the phase-I and the phase-II **102 new polling stations** were set for the first time for the convenience of the villagers

Tripura at it again, records highest polling percentage

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

TRIPURA recorded the highest voter turnout among the three states from the Northeast which went to Lok Sabha elections on Friday. Polling was held in Tripura East along with Assam's Silchar, Karimganj, Nagaon, Diphu, Darrang-Udalguri and Manipur's Outer Manipur seats.

Till 5 pm, Tripura recorded a voter turnout of 79.46%, followed by Manipur (76.06%) and Assam (70.66%). Barring Nagaon which is held by Congress, the six other seats are with the NDA — five (Tripura East, Silchar, Karimganj, Diphu and Darrang-Udalguri) with the BJP and one (Outer Manipur) with Naga People's Front which is a BJP ally. The Outer Manipur seat went to polls in two phases.

The polls were by and large peaceful. However, there were at least four incidents in Manipur's Naga-majority Ukhrul district where the public damaged electronic voting machines after the armed miscreants had allegedly resorted to booth capturing to favour a particular candidate.

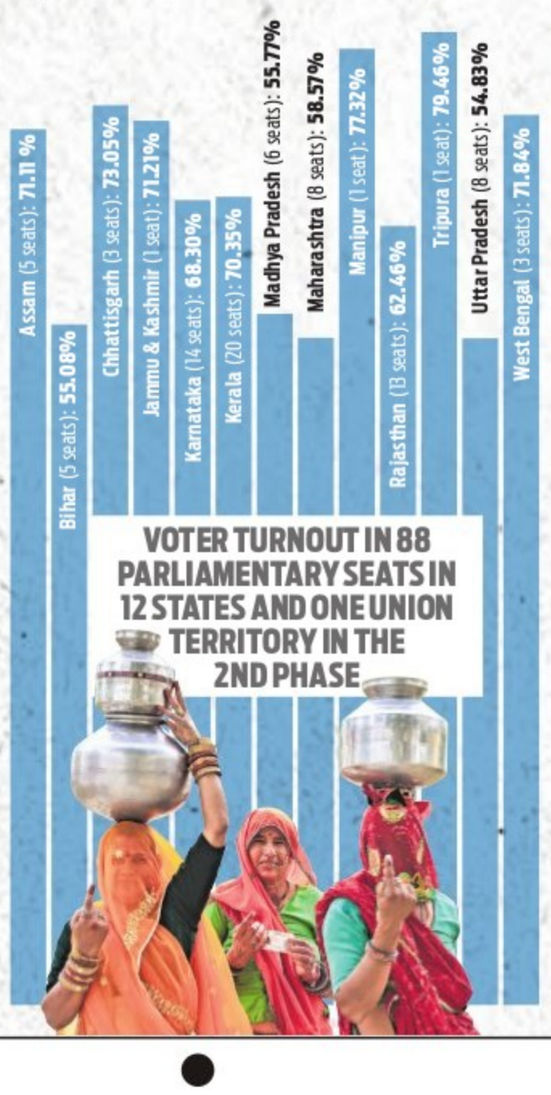
Elsewhere in Assam and Tripura, the voters boycotted the elections due to varied reasons. A voter died outside a polling booth under Karimganj seat.

The residents of Chittaranjan Road in Silchar did not cast their votes to draw the attention of the authorities to the problem of artificial floods. Similarly, 767 voters of the Durga Nagar Tea Garden falling under this seat did not turn up as a mark of protest against the government's failure to build an all-weather road.

In Sonai under Silchar, 710 voters did not vote as the nearest booth was set up 5 km away. Over 1,000 voters from Sadai Mohan Para in Tripura boycotted the polls protesting the lack of basic amenities.

Assam's minority-based AIUDF alleged the Congress attempted to rig the polls in some poling stations falling under the Karimganj seat.

Hundreds of stranded train passengers could not vote as six trains to the Barak Valley were cancelled due to derailment of a goods train engine. About 15 voters were injured on Friday when a swarm of bees attacked them at Barabill area of Tripura's Khowai.


Assam (5 seats): 71.11 %
Bihar (5 seats): 55.08%
Chhattisgarh (3 seats): 73.05%
Jammu & Kashmir (1 seat): 71.21%
Karnataka (14 seats): 68.30%
Kerala (20 seats): 70.35%
Madhya Pradesh (6 seats): 55.77%
Maharashtra (8 seats): 58.57%
Manipur (1 seat): 77.32%
Rajasthan (13 seats): 62.46%
Tripura (1 seat): 79.46%
Uttar Pradesh (8 seats): 54.83%
West Bengal (3 seats): 71.84%
VOTER TURNOUT IN 88 PARLIAMENTARY SEATS IN 12 STATES AND ONE UNION TERRITORY IN THE 2ND PHASE

BIHAR

An estimated 58.58% of around 93 lakh voters exercised their franchise in five constituencies — Banka, Bhagalpur, Kishanganj, Katihar and Purnea. While Katihar recorded the highest turnout of 64.60%, Kishanganj followed closely with 64%. Similarly, Purnea recorded a turnout of 59.94%, Banka 54% and Bhagalpur 51%. The voter turnout was in the five constituencies was about 4.34% less compared to the 2019 polls. Chief Electoral Officer, Bihar, H R Srinivasa said that votes were cast at 102 polling stations under Katoria assembly constituency and also at 146 polling booths under Belhar assembly constituency in Banka Lok Sabha constituency from 7 am to 4 pm as it fell under the Naxal-affected area. At other polling stations, votes were cast from 7 am to 6 pm. Independent candidate Rajesh Ranjan alias Pappu Yadav in a triangular contest is pitted against RJD candidate Bima Bharti and JD(U) nominee Santosh Kushwaha in Purnea. In Katihar, former union minister and Congress candidate Tariq Anwar is locked in a direct contest against JD(U) candidate Dulalchand Goswami. Similarly, Congress candidate Mohammad Jawed is in a triangular contest against JD(U) nominee Mujahid Alam and Akhtharul Iman (AIMIM) in Kishanganj. In Banka, JD(U) MP Girdhari Yadav is pitted against RJD candidate Jai Prakash Narayan Yadav. On the other hand, Congress candidate Ajeet Sharma is pitted against JD(U) candidate Ajay Mandal in Bhagalpur.

MAHARASHTRA

Maharashtra observed a decline in voter turnout during the second phase of the Lok Sabha elections, with an overall polling percentage of 53%, marking a decrease from the previous election cycle. The constituencies of Buldhana, Yavatmal-Washim, and Hingoli emerged as battlegrounds, witnessing direct confrontations between factions of Shiv Sena led by Eknath Shinde and Uddhav Thackeray. Particularly in Yavatmal-Washim, Rajashri Patil, spouse of former MP Hemant Patil, contested against Sanjay Deshmukh of the Thackeray-led party. Additionally, Akola and Amravati saw triangular contests, while Wardha and Nanded experienced intense rivalries between candidates. In Hingoli, Baburao Kohalikar replaced Shiv Sena MP Hemant Patil, facing Uddhav Thackeray's candidate Nagesh Patil Ashtikar. Mahadev Jankar of Rashtriya Samaj Paksha, backed by Mahayuti, challenged sitting MP Sanjay Jadhav, supported by Shiv Sena. PM Modi campaigned for Jankar in Parbhani. Akola, Amravati, and Wardha also saw intense contests. Nanded saw BJP's Pratap Chikhalikar against Congress' Vasant Chavan, with Ashok Chavan supporting BJP. In Akola, the contest was between BJP' Anup Dhotre and Congress' Abhay Patil, with Prakash Ambedkar as the third candidate of VBA. In Amravati, the contest was triangular, with MP Navneet Rana contesting as a BJP nominee against Congress' Balwant Wankhede, and Dinesh Bub from Prahar Janshakti Party.

CHHATTISGARH

The turnout in the three constituencies — Kanker, Rajnandgaon and Mahasamund — recorded 72.13% polling. The turnout in Kanker was the highest at 73.50% followed by Rajnandgaon 71.87% and Mahasamund 71.13%. Voting began at 7am amid thick security cover across several Naxal-affected areas that fall under the two seats of Kanker and Rajnandgaon. Out of 52.84 lakh voters, female voters with over 26.79 lakh outnumbered men having strength of 26.05 lakh. There were 41 candidates in fray, including 17 in Mahasamund, 15 in Rajnandgaon and 9 in Kanker. And among the 41 candidates, there are only 3 women. Rajnandgaon emerged as a high-profile seat where former CM Bhupesh Baghel is pitted against BJP MP Santosh Pandey. The state's former home minister and ex-MP Tamrdhwaj Sahu is contesting against BJP's Roop Kumari Chowdhary in Mahasamund and in the reserved (Scheduled Tribe) of Kanker, the direct fight is between BJP's Bhojraj Nag and Biresh Thakur from Congress. Congress has never won Kanker seat since 1998. Barring a bypoll in 2007 won by Congress, Rajnandgaon continues as a BJP citadel from 1998. Congress won Mahasamund last in 2004 when the state's first CM Ajit Jogi defeated Vidya Charan Shukla who contested as a BJP candidate. The Lok Sabha polls in Chhattisgarh are being held in three phases. The remaining seven seats will go to polls in the third phase on May 7.

WEST BENGAL

Polling for three constituencies was peaceful with a voter turnout of over 72% registered till 5 PM on Friday, an EC official said. Voting for Darjeeling, Balurghat, and Raiganj constituencies started at 7 AM and continued till 6 PM, he said. Till 5 PM, Balurghat recorded the highest polling percentage at 72.30%, followed by Raiganj at 71.87 % and Darjeeling at 71.41 %, the official said. Sources suggest the turnout may increase further as long queues were observed outside polling booths even after 6 PM. West Bengal recorded a voter turnout of nearly 82% in the first phase of polling for three Lok Sabha seats Cooch Behar, Jalpaiguri, and Alipurduars on April 19. The BJP had won all three seats in 2019. During the last Lok Sabha polls, the turnout in Darjeeling, Balurghat, and Raiganj was 78%, 83% and 79.82%, respectively. Forty-seven candidates, including state BJP president Sukanta Majumdar, are in the fray in this phase, with 51.17 lakh people eligible to exercise their franchise. A total of 272 companies, comprising 27,200 personnel of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs), along with 12,983 state policemen, have been deployed for the polls, the official added.

JAMMU & KASHMIR

More than 57 per cent voter turnout was recorded in the first four hours of polling in the Jammu constituency in the second phase, officials said. The Lok Sabha polls is the first major electoral battle in Jammu and Kashmir after the abrogation of Article 370 and the bifurcation of the erstwhile state into Union Territories -- Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh -- on August 5, 2019. Meanwhile, some candidates sought for postponement of polls in the Anantnag-Rajouri Lok Sabha seat due to adverse weather conditions. NC leader Omar Abdullah and PDP president Mehbooba Mufti asked the Election Commission not to postpone polls. "I appeal to the EC that such a step should not be taken.The demand for postponement is not from all parties. The weird thing is that some of the people who have written to the EC are not contesting. If I write to the EC about constituencies in Tamil Nadu etc. will they take notice," he told a press conference in Srinagar. Of the 2,416 polling stations 158 are along the International Border and the Line of Control (LoC). Over 100 special polling stations were set up to cater to different categories of voters.

MADHYA PRADESH

Trend of decline in turnout compared to 2019 Lok Sabha polls, which started in the first phase on April 19, continued in the second phase. Till the time of filing the report, 58.35% polling was reported on six seats, which was over 9% lower than 2019, but 2% more than than the 2014 general elections. The six seats —Tikamgarh-SC, Damoh, Satna, Rewa, Hoshangabad and Khajuraho —were won by the BJP in 2019 and 2014. Four BJP MPs, including Union minister Virendra Khatik (Tikamgarh-SC), Ganesh Singh (Satna), Janardan Mishra (Rewa) and state party president VD Sharma (Khajuraho), are in the fray. As per latest figures, Hoshangabad reported maximum 67.16% voting (74.17% in 2019), followed by Satna with 61.87% (70.71% in 2019), Tikamgarh-SC with 59.79% (66.57% in 2019), Khajuraho with 56.44% (68.28% in 2019), Damoh with 56.18% (65.82% in 2019) and Rewa with the lowest 48.67% (60.33% in 2019). In the first phase on April 19, over 67% voting was reported on six seats, which was around 8% less than 75.23% polling of 2019 elections, but two percent more than 65% voter turnout of 2014 elections.

KARNATAKA

Voting was held on Friday for the first phase of Lok Sabha polls in Karnataka, in 14 constituencies, with an estimated over 69 per cent turnout, as the Congress and BJP locked horns again on the electoral battleground in less than a year. The highest turnout of 58.76 percent was recorded in Dakshina Kannada, followed by Udupi-Chikmagalur at 57.49 percent. The least was 40.10 percent in Bangalore Central. The turnout was 40.77 percent in Bangalore South and 41.12 percent in Bangalore North. Eight senior women officers of district administration wore specially-designed silk sarees sporting a message that seeks to encourage voter participation which came in for all-round praise. The eight included Deputy Commissioner of Chamarajanagar Shilpa Nag, who is also the Election Officer for Chamarajanagar Lok Sabha constituency, who sported a message "Chunavana Parva-Deshada Garva" (festival of election is the country's pride) on their sarees. "The hand-woven silk sarees are to promote traditional weavers and weaving industry that Chamarajanagar is known for, and also to create awareness about voting," Nag said.

KERALA

The election process, held amid tight security arrangements, was primarily incident free except for instances of bogus voting and breakdowns of electronic voting machines (EVMs) being reported in some booths of the state. Such incidents resulted in delaying the polling process in the affected booths. Several persons and a polling agent reportedly died due to various reasons during the polling in the state. According to reports, one person each died at Palakkad, Alappuzha and Malappuram after casting their vote and a polling agent died after collapsing at a booth in Kozhikode. Various church factions in Kerala on Friday urged the people to go and vote for those supporting secularism and democracy in the general elections in the southern state. Archbishop Raphael Thattil of the influential Syro-Malabar Church, after casting his vote, said the church wants everyone to live peacefully in the country. The influential Latin Church said people were excited to exercise their right to vote in Kerala. Around 2.77 crore voters will decide the fate of the 194 candidates who are contesting from the 20 Lok Sabha constituencies in the state.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform that general public that my Client **Mr. SHARANPRASAD A.H** S/o Dr. Anandkumar, presently residing at 10/1, Vardhamanaiah Block, near Adi Basavanna Temple, Kamic Road, Shankarapuram, Bangalore - 560004, have lost the mentioned below original documents in respect of schedule property: **(1)** KATHA ENDORSEMENT, No.KHB/AEE/AE-JE/SNGR/BNG/ 343/2016-17, dated 29-07-2016. **(2)** POSSESSION CERTIFICATE, Dated 21.10.2009. **(3)** ALLOTMENT LETTER, SNR/MIG/HOUSE/3BHK/706 TYPE-B/2007-08, dated 31.05.2008. **(4)** NOC/ TO WHOM SOEVER IT MAY CONCERN, SNR/MIG/HOUSE/ 3BHK/706 TYPE-B/2007-08, Dated 31.05.2008 and also lodged a complaint in this regard before Police Department, Bangalore on 19.04.2024, E-Lost Report No.1020145/2024, In spite of the best efforts same could not be traced.

Therefore it is requested that the general public who ever may find the Original said documents to hand over the same to the undersigned immediately to my client within 15 days from the date of publication of this Notice.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

SCHEDULE - A : All that portion of Residential Site No.706, MIG-II, developed by The Karnataka Housing Board in development of known as 'Suryanagar Phase-1', situated at Iggaluru-Banahalli Villages of Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, measuring East to West: 18.00 Meters and North to South: 13.50 Meters, in all measuring 243.00 Square Meters, with constructed building thereon and bounded as follows: On the **East By : House No.699, MIG Type-C, West By : Road, North By : House No.707, MIG Type-B, South By : House No.705, MIG Type-B.**

SCHEDULE - B: House No.706, Category : MIG Type-B, Plinth Area measuring 105.90 Square Meters, comprising of 3 Bed Rooms of Vitrified Flooring constructed on Site No.706 MIG-II by The Karnataka Housing Board built on Schedule-A Property aforesaid.

Sd/- **SHIVAPRAKASH K. N.,** Advocate,
SRS LAW ASSOCIATES,
No.548, 7th Main Road, Vijayanagar,
Bangalore - 560040. Mobile: 9341824536
Place: Bangalore Date: 27-04-2024

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No.Y/E.29/2024-25/07
Dated: 18-04-2024

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Description of work	Approx. Value
(1) Bajakere (BAJE)	Rs. 33,26,905/-

Provision of HL PF for 250 mtr, Platform shelter and other amenities at PF 1 of Bajakere Halt. **(2)** Kaniyoor (KNYR) - Provision of HL PF for 250 m, PF shelter and other amenities at PF 1 of Kaniyoor Halt Station. **(3)** Kodimbala- Provision of High Level Platform for 250 Meters, Platform shelter and other amenities at PF-1 of Kodimbala Halt. **(4)** Narimogaru Provision of High Level Platform for 250 Meters, Platform shelter and other amenities at PF-1 and PF-2 of Narimogaru Railway Station. **(5)** Yedamangala - Provision of High Level Platform for 250 Meters, platform shelter and other amenities at PF-1 and PF-2 of Yedamangala Railway Station. **(6)** Extension of PF-1 to 530 m, 180 sqms of low cost PF shelter, resurfacing of existing PF surface, water pedestals and seating arrangements at Challakere.

Last date for submission of bids :
Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 10-05-2024

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer
PUB/33/AAD/PRB/SWR/2024-25 **Mysuru**

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

IN THE COURT OF THE LXXXIV ADDL. CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE AT BENGALURU (CCH-85) COM.OS.No.1701/2022

Between:

The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd, a Banking Company Established under the J&K Companies Act, 1977(samvat), having its registered Office at Moulana Azad Road, Srinagar, J&K And Branch Office at No.F6 & F7, 1st Floor, Gem Plaza, Infantry Road, Bangalore Represented by its GPA Holder, Mr.Sanjeev Agarwal, **.... Plaintiff**

And

M/s Saloni Maintenance and Services Center and others ....Defendants

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT No.6

Mr.Syed Mateen Aga S/o Mr.Syed Imtiaz Aga, Aged major, R/o.No.13, Rest House, Crescent Road, Bengaluru-560001.

Whereas, the Plaintiff Bank has filed the above money recovery suit against the Defendants for recovery of a sum of **Rs.3,87,467.89 (Rupees Three Lakhs Eighty Seven Thousand Four Hundred Sixty Seven and False Eighty Nine Only),** along with Future interest at 16.50% per annum with monthly rests from the date of the suit till the date of realization along with cost of the suit.

Hence, you are hereby directed to appear before this Hon'ble Court in person or by an Advocate duly instructed ir through some one authorized by law to act for you in this suit on **06.06.2024 at 11.00 A.M.** If you fail to appear on the fixed date the suit will be heard and decided in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Court this **19.04.2024.**

By Order of the Court.
Sd/- Assistant Registrar,
Court of the Small Cause Judge, Bangalore.

Address of the Advocate.
R.SHAILESH KUMAR, M/s.Susheel Associates, Law Firm, F-1, First Floor, Harshita Arcade, No.138, Main Road, Sheshadripuram, Bangalore-560020.
Cell No.9845009771.

Centre for Development of Advanced Computing

A Scientific Society of Ministry of Electronics and IT, Govt. of India
(Approved by AICTE & Affiliated to Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, Sector 16C, Dwarka, New Delhi 110078)

Admission to M.Tech (AI & DS)

The candidates desirous to take admission in M.Tech (Artificial Intelligence and Data Science) programme at CDAC, Noida for Academic Session 2024-25 are informed to register online at https://ipu.admissions.nic.in.

The last date of registration is 25-05-2024.

Admissions Criteria

GATE Score/ Direct Admission

Eligibility Criteria

Minimum 60% or equivalent in the qualifying examination as under:-
1.B.Tech. / B.E. in (CS, IT, ECE, Instrumentation, EE, EEE or equivalent)
2.Graduate IETE/AMIE (ECE/CSE/IT/EE).
3.M.Sc. (IT/ Electronics/ CS/ Physics/ Mathematics/ Statistics/OR/ Applied Physics).
4.MCA or MCA (SE).

Other Programmes offered at CDAC: M.Tech (CSE/ VLSI Design), MCA, MBA
For more information please visit: https://cdac.in/
Dr. Kalpana Johari, 9810237002
Dr. Kriti Saroha, 9810702461
Mr. Sanjay Ojha, 9891963250
Address: CDAC, B-30 Sector 62, Noida, 201307 CBC 06130/12/0001/2425

SCAN ME

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED

Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id :** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Ph :** 0435-2432322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746

RE-TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

The following property/ies mortgaged to **City Union Bank Limited** will be sold in Re-Tender-cum Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of **Rs.25,20,798/- (Rupees Twenty Five Lakh Twenty Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety Eight only)** as on **15-04-2024** together with further interest to be charged from **16-04-2024** onwards and other expenses, any other dues to the Bank by the borrowers / guarantors **No.1) M/s. S.V. Silks, No.85/3703, Ganigarapete, Doddaballapur, Karnataka - 561203. No.2) Mr. Vishwanath, S/o. Shivanna, D.No.3790, 28th Ward, Taluk Office Road, Deshadapete, Behind Old SRM, Doddaballapur - 561203. No.3) Mrs. Kanyakumari CP, W/o. Vishwanath, D.No.3790, 28th Ward, Taluk Office Road, Deshadapete, Behind Old SRM, Doddaballapur - 561203**

Immovable Properties Mortgaged to our Bank

Schedule - A : (Property Owned by Mr. Vishwanath, S/o. Shivanna)

Property Situated at 4th Ward, Deshadapete, Doddaballapur - 561203, Old Khata No.2461, Present Khata No.85/79/3697/1, Present Khata SL No.350, measuring : East-West 8 feet and North-South 45 feet, Bounded by : East : Property of Item No.2, West : Properties of Channabasavaradya & Jayanna, North : Compound of Masjid, South : Road.

Schedule - B : (Property Owned by Mr. Vishwanath, S/o. Shivanna)

Property Situated at 4th Ward, Deshadapete, Doddaballapur - 561203, Old Khata No.2459, Present Khata No.80/75/3694/1, Present Khata SL No.349, measuring : East-West 22 feet and North-South 33 feet, Bounded by : East : Properties of Gajendra, Veerabhadraradya & Others West : Property of Item No.1, North : Property of Item No.3, South : Road.

Schedule - C : (Property Owned by Mr. Vishwanath, S/o. Shivanna)

Property Situated at 4th Ward, Deshadapete, Doddaballapur - 561203, Old Khata No.3694/3695/3697/3698/2, Present Khata No.77/74/3694, Present Khata SL No.348, measuring : East-West 15 feet and North-South 15 feet, Bounded by : East : Properties of Jayanna & others, West : Property of Item No.1, North : Compound of Masjid, South : Property of Item No.2. Total Extent of Land 1,311 Sq.Ft. RCC Ground Floor & First Floor Residential Building constructed therein.

Reserve Price : Rs. 25,00,000/-/-
(Rupees Twenty Five Lakh only) (For Schedule - A, B and C)

RE-AUCTION DETAILS

Date of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale	Venue
16-05-2024	City Union Bank Limited, Doddaballapur Branch, 1108/1116/925, Hungi Complex, Cinema Street, Doddaballapur, Bengaluru Urban, Karnataka - 561203. Telephone No.080-27622082, Cell No.9341673937.

Terms and Conditions of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale :

(1) The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself / herself. **(2)** The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from **The Manager, City Union Bank Limited, Doddaballapur Branch, 1108/1116/925, Hungi Complex, Cinema Street, Doddaballapur, Bengaluru Urban, Karnataka - 561203. (3)** The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to **The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd.,** together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of **10%** of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of **"City Union Bank Ltd.", on or before 12.00 Noon** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. **(4)** For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact **Telephone No:080-27622082, Cell No :9341673937. (5)** The property/ies are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever-there is" basis. **(6)** The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at **01.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an Open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. **(7)** The successful bidder shall have to pay **25% (inclusive of EMD paid)** of the sale amount **immediately** on completion of sale and the balance amount of **75%** within **15 days** from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of **25%** shall be forfeited. **(8)** The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. **(9)** The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. **(10)** The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues), TDS, GST if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. **(11)** The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 25-04-2024 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287,
Telephone No. 0435-2402322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746, **Website :** www.cityunionbank.com

NAGPUR IMPROVEMENT TRUST

e-TENDER NOTICE No. 01/2024-25

Second Call

Name of Department :- Nagpur Improvement Trust Name of Head of Department :- Executive Engineer (West)
Name of Work :- Proposed Redevelopment of Gokulpeth Market at Gokulpeth Precinct, Kh. No. 28/1, CTS No. 1348, Mouza Gadga, Nagpur on Design, Build, Finance, Maintain and Sale (DBFMS) basis (IInd Call).

The Nagpur Improvement Trust / Nagpur Municipal Corporation, intending to Redevelopment of Gokulpeth Market at Gokulpeth Precinct, Kh. No. 28/1, CTS No. 1348, Mouza Gadga, Nagpur on Design, Build, Finance, Maintain and Sale (DBFMS) basis, NIT / NMC is hereby calling for proposal from competent entity to be appointed as a developer for this prestigious project on this e-tender can be downloaded from Govt. of Maharashtra's portal (www.mahatenders.gov.in). The terms and conditions of e-tenders are available on e-tenders portal. (www.mahatenders.gov.in).

Bidding Process Timelines

1	RFP Sales	27.04.2024 to 25.05.2024 till 02:00 PM
2	RFP Submission End Date	25.05.2024 till 05:00 PM
3	Date of Opening of Technical Bid (If Possible)	27.05.2024
4	Cost of Tender Document (Non-Refundable)	Rs. 50,000/-
5	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) to be deposited online at time of submission of tender only	Rs. 50,00,000/-

NIT reserves the right to alter, modify any clause of the Bidding Documents including the Contract Agreement and also to annul the bidding process without assigning any reason whats ever

Advt.No.: S.E.(HQ)/02/2024-25 Dated : 26.04.2024 **sd/ Superintending Engineer (HQ),Nagpur Improvement Trust, Nagpur**

PIRAMAL CAPITAL AND HOUSING FINANCE LTD

Piramal Capital & Housing Finance

CIN: L65910MH1984PLC032639
Registered Office: Unit No.-601, 6th Floor, Piramal Amiti Building, Piramal Agastya Corporate Park, Kamani Junction, Opp. Fire Station, LBS Marg, Kurla (West), Mumbai - 400070 **–T** +91 22 3802 4000

Branch Office: No 305 & 306, 3rd Floor, Inland Ornate Navbharat Circle, Kodilabail, Mangaluru, Karnataka 575003
Contact Person 1. Mallikarjun G. Hadagali - 9620686817 2. Praveen B Emmi - 9343178492 3. Vishal Ketele - 9584966653

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE – SUBSEQUENT SALE

Pursuant to taking possession of the secured asset mentioned hereunder by the Authorized Officer of Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Limited under the **Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002** for the recovery of amount due from borrower/s, offers are invited by the undersigned for purchase of immovable property, as described hereunder, which is in the physical possession, on **'As Is Where Is Basis', 'As Is What Is Basis'** and **'Whatever Is There Is Basis',** Particulars of which are given below:

Loan Code/Branch/ Borrower (s) / Co-Borrower (s) / Guarantor (s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Property Address _final	Reserve Price	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (10% of RP)	Outstanding Amount (19-04-2024)
Loan Code No.: 21400043169, Bengaluru - Jayanagar (Branch), Ranbir Kumar Singh (Borrower), Sapna Singh (Co Borrower 1)	Dt: 30-04-2021, Rs. 3612498/-, (Rs. Thirty Six lakh Twelve Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Eight Rupees)	All The piece and Parcel of the Property having an extent :- Flat No TF1, 3rd Floor, Brindavan Apartm NA Patelappa Layout, Nagashettyhalli Villag Patelappa Layout, Nagashettyhalli Villag Kasaba Hobli, Default Karnataka IN 560094 Boundaries As :- North : PP South : Road East : Road West : Road	Rs. 3800000/- .(Rs. Thirty Eight lakh Rupees)	Rs. 380000/-, (Rs. Three lakh Eighty Thousand Rupees)	Rs. 4155155/-, (Rs. Forty One lakh Fifty Five Thousand One Hundred Fifty Five Rupees)

DATE OF E-AUCTION: 14-05-2024, FROM 11.00 A.M. TO 2.00 P.M (WITH UNLIMITED EXTENSION OF 5 MINUTES EACH), LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION OF BID: 13-05-2024, BEFORE 4.00 P.M.

For detailed terms and conditions of the Sale, please refer to the link provided in www.piramalfinance.com/e-Auction.html or email us on piramal.auction@piramal.com

STATUTORY 15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT TO THE BORROWER/GUARANTOR / MORTGAGOR

The above mentioned Borrower/Guarantor are hereby noticed to pay the sum as mentioned in section 13(2) notice in full with accrued interest till date before the date of auction, failing which property will be auctioned/sold and balance dues if any will be recovered with interest and cost from borrower/guarantor.

Sd/-
(Authorised Officer)
Date : 27.04.2024
Place : Karnataka
Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Limited

Format C-2

Declaration about criminal antecedents of candidates set up by the party:

(As per the judgement dated 25th September, 2018, of Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP (Civil) No.536 of 2011 (Public Interest Foundation & Ors Vs. Union of India & Anr.)

Name of Political Party : **Bharatiya Janata Party**
Name of Election : **General Election to LokSabha - 2024**
Name of State/UT : **Karnataka**

1	2	3	4		5	
Sl. No.	Name of Constituency	Name of Candidate	(A)Pending Criminal cases		(B) Details about cases of conviction for criminal offences	
			Name of Court, case No. & status of the case(s)	Sections of the Acts concerned & brief description of offence(s)	Name of Court & date(s) of order(s)	Description offfence(s) & punishment imposed
1	09 - BELLARY	B. SREEMALU	1) 2nd Addl. Jmfc, Chitradurga Cc No.481/2023 Pending	1) Section 188 Ipc, Disobidience Of Public Order	NA	NA
			2) 81st Addl. City Civil & Sessions Court, Bengaluru Spl. Cc No.876/ 2022 Pending	2) Secs. 13 (1)D R/W 13 (2) Of Pc Act., Secs. 120b, 427, 447, 506 R/W. 34 Of Ipc Property Obtained By Illegal Means	NA	NA
			3) 42nd addl. Cmm, Bengaluru. Cc No.30779/2021 Pending	3) Sec. 276 C (1) It Act, Evading Of Tax	NA	NA
			4) Prl (Sr.Cj), Chellakeri Cc No.615/2020 Pending	4) Sec. 51(B) Of Nmd Act, 2005, And Sec. 188 Of Ipc Obstructing Public Servant, Disobedience Causing Danger To To Human Life, Health Or Safety,	NA	NA
			5) Spl. Court For Abolition Of Land Grabbing. Lgc No. 1366/2019 Pending	5) Sec. 4(3) Of Klgb Act, 2011 Land Grabbing	NA	NA
2	14 - SHIMOGA	B.Y. RAGHAVENDRA	1) 1st Addl Civil Judge (Jr.Dn)& Jmfc Court, Chitradurga Dist. Chitradurga. Cr.No.0124/2024, Dated:23.03.2024 Registered At Chitradurga Ruralpolice Station, Chitradurga Stayed By Hon'ble High Court Of Karnataka, Bengaluru, On 16.04.2024, In W.P.10412/2024, Pending	1) Sec. 171(F) Of Ipc, Sec. 125 Of R.P Act And Sec. 7 Of Religious Institutions (Prevention Of Misuse) Act 1988. Offences Relating To Undue Influence Or Personation At An Election, Promoting Enmity Between Classes In Connection With Election, Contravention Of Provisions Of Se.3,4,5, Or 6 Of Religious Institutions (Prevention Of Misuse) Act	NA	NA
			2) F.No.Ecir/ Bgzo/06/2013 Directorate Of Enforcement Bangalore Zonal Office, 3rd Floor, 'B' Block, Bmtc Building, Shantinagar, K.H.Road, Bangalore Under Investigation (Note:This Ecir Registered Based On The Charge Sheet Filed In Fir No.Rc.08(A)/2012 Filed By Cbi.After Thorough Trial Before Cbi Court In Spl.C.C.207/2012 All Accused Are Acquitted On 26.10.2016)	2) Sec. 3 Of The Prevention Of Money Laundering Act, 2002 Money Laundering	NA	NA

Lokesh Ambekallu
(State Office Secretary)
Bharatiya Janata Party - Karnataka

1 killed
as Lebanon's militant Hezbollah group fires anti-tank missiles at an Israeli military convoy

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • WI: Windy • HR: Heavy Rain • SN: Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	27	17	SNY	Los Angeles	19	12	SNY
Colombo	33	27	SNY	Melbourne	17	8	SNY
Dhaka	39	28	SNY	Moscow	21	12	LR
Dubai	31	26	SNY	New York	16	6	SNY
Houston	29	23	LC	Singapore	33	27	LC
Istanbul	20	13	SNY	Toronto	12	8	SNY
London	12	6	LC	Washington	15	10	LC

Xi slams US' export curbs on AI chips in meeting with Blinken

Says relations can get better and move forward if US takes positive view of China's development; Blinken questions Beijing's support for Russia's war in Ukraine

BEIJING

CHINESE President Xi Jinping on Friday told top US diplomat Antony Blinken that the world's biggest economies should be "partners, not rivals" as the two sides pressed for headway on a range of concerns.

Blinken, in China for the second time in less than a year, pointed to improvements in the relationship but urged greater action from Beijing on areas including curbing support for Russia. Meeting Blinken in Beijing's Great Hall of the People, Xi said the two countries had "made some positive progress" since he met with US President Joe Biden in November.

"The two countries should be partners, not rivals," Xi said.

But he issued a warning over what China considers US pressure to curb its economy, which have included a sweeping ban on semiconductor exports and efforts to wrest blockbuster app TikTok from its Chinese owners. "We hope the US can also take a positive view of China's development," Xi said.

"When this fundamental problem is solved," he said, "relations can truly stabilise, get better and move forward".

Earlier China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi warned Blinken that US pressure could trigger a "downward spiral".

Wang also warned that the question of self-ruled Taiwan was the "first red line" that must not be crossed in China-US relations. Blinken described his talks with Wang at the Diaoyutai state guesthouse—which lasted more than five and a half hours —"extensive and constructive".

He announced that the two countries will in the coming weeks hold their first formal talks on managing artificial intelligence, a rising area of concern as the technology progresses rapidly. But Blinken sounded a warning on China's support for Russia's "brutal war of aggression" in Ukraine, saying that Beijing—while stopping short of direct arms exports—has helped Russia ramp up production of rockets, drones and tanks. Russian President Vladimir Putin said this week he will visit China in May.

China's President Xi Jinping speaks with US Secretary of State Antony Blinken (2nd L) during their meeting at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on Friday | AFP

"Russia would struggle to sustain its assault on Ukraine without China's support," Blinken said, warning that the United States was ready to take action against Beijing.

But he said China has been helpful in the past, including in discouraging nuclear weapons use by Russia, and said that Wang promised to stay in touch on the Middle East, a key priority for Washington.

Pointing to China's ties with Iran, whose shadow war with Israel has come into the open, Blinken said: "I think the relationships that China has can be positive in trying to calm tensions, to prevent escalation, avoid the spread of the conflict." US officials believe Xi's foremost priority is to manage headwinds in the Chinese economy and that, at least in the short term, he is looking to avoid flare-ups with the West. *AFP*

Baby rescued from dead mom's womb dies 5 days later in Gaza

GAZA

A baby saved from her dying mother's womb in the war-battered Gaza Strip has died, her uncle told AFP on Friday.

Sabreen al-Ruh was the only surviving member of her immediate family after she was delivered by Caesarean section while her mother lay fatally wounded from an Israeli air strike at the weekend.

The Emirati hospital in the southern Gaza city of Rafah said the premature baby died on Thursday "despite efforts by the neonatal unit staff" to keep her alive.

Her uncle Rami al-Sheikh told AFP the hospital had called to say "her condition had worsened and they couldn't save her".

"She passed away to join her family," he said. "I went and completed all the procedures at the hospital today, and brought the girl's body home." "I opened her father Shukri's grave and buried her there," he added.

Witnesses told AFP the family's house in Rafah was hit by an Israeli strike, which killed at least 19 people, according to Gaza's health ministry. Al-Ruh's father and sister were among those killed.

Al-Ruh's mother Sabreen al-Sakani reached the emergency unit at the city's Kuwaiti hospital in a critical condition with wounds to the head and abdomen, and died shortly after the baby was delivered.

Doctors had described the baby's survival as a "miracle" earlier this week.

Al-Ruh had been transferred to the Emirati field hospital, set up in December to cope with the besieged Palestinian territory's mounting toll of injured and dead.

Israel has since threatened to invade Rafah, where most of Gaza's population has sought refuge, despite international outcry.

The war in Gaza between Israel and Hamas erupted when the Palestinian Islamist group Hamas launched an unprecedented attack on Israel on October 7. The attack resulted in the deaths of 1,170 people in Israel, according to an AFP tally based on official Israeli figures. Israel vowed to eliminate Hamas, and its ensuing military offensive in Gaza has killed at least 34,356 people. *AFP*

Protest tents at Columbia University

Univ drops deadline to dismantle protest camp

Columbia University backed off late on Thursday from an overnight deadline for pro-Palestinian protesters to dismantle a large tent camp with around 200 students. "The talks have shown progress and are continuing as planned," Columbia University president Minouche Shafik said in a statement said. "We have our demands; they have theirs."

Princeton bars Indian-origin student over protests

An Indian-origin female student studying at the prestigious Princeton University is among two students who have been arrested and barred from the campus for staging pro-Palestine protests on the campus. Achinthya Sivalingan, born in Coimbatore, was arrested within six minutes of the first protest tent being set up

Egyptian delegation in Israel to reignite stalled truce talks

JERUSALEM

A delegation from Gaza war mediator Egypt arrived in Israel on Friday for a bid to reignite stalled ceasefire and hostage-release negotiations between Israel and Hamas, media reports said.

The signs of fresh truce talks come alongside Israeli preparations for a military push in Gaza's southern city of Rafah, and with spillover from the war leading to stepped-up exchanges of fire over Israel's northern border with Lebanon.

There has been "noticeable progress in bringing the views of the Egyptian and Israeli delegations closer", said Al-Qahera News, which is linked to Egyptian state intelligence services.

Egypt, Qatar and the United States have been trying to find a ceasefire for the war in Gaza without success since a one-week halt to the fighting in November. That truce saw the exchange of 80 Israeli captives in return for 240 Palestinians held in Israeli prisons.

Since then, global criticism of the toll on Palestinian civilians in Gaza has escalated, as have calls for Hamas militants to release the remaining hostages being held since their October 7 attack.

> **I was sitting selling cigarettes and suddenly a missile fell, shaking the whole area**
>
> A witness in Gaza City

Several Israeli media outlets, citing unnamed officials, said on Friday that Israel's war cabinet discussed a new plan for a truce and hostage release ahead of the Egyptian delegation's visit. The war also ground on, with missiles fired from an Israeli jet striking Gaza City on Friday, killing at least three people in the Rimal neighbourhood, an AFP reporter said.

"I was sitting selling cigarettes and suddenly a missile fell, shaking the whole area," a witness who did not give his name told AFP, adding that the bodies of a man, a woman and a little girl were pulled out of the rubble.

In a separate appeal to Hamas, Dani Miran, the father of Hungarian-Israeli hostage Omri Miran, said: "Please confirm the deal to prevent the killing of Israelis, Gazans, Israeli children, Gazan children. Let's be human beings."

Israeli demonstrators have intensified protests, including on Thursday in Tel Aviv, for their government to reach a deal that would free the captives, accusing Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of prolonging the war. *AFP*

WAR WATCH
ISRAEL-GAZA: DAY 203

TOLL SO FAR
35,984

51 deaths in Gaza on Friday

The health ministry in Hamas-run Gaza said on Friday that at least **34,356 people** have been killed in the territory during more than six months of war. Another **489 people** have been killed in occupied West Bank. Hamas' October 7 attack on Israel had killed **1,139 people**

'I CAN'T BREATHE'

Black man dies in US minutes after cop puts knee on his back

TOLEDO

AN Ohio man who was handcuffed and left facedown on the floor of a social club last week died in police custody, and the officers involved have been placed on paid administrative leave. Police body-camera footage released on Wednesday shows a Canton police officer responding to a report of a crash and finding Frank Tyson, a 53-year-old East Canton resident, by the bar in a nearby American Veterans, or AMVETS, post.

The crash at about 8 p.m. on April 18 had severed a utility pole. Officer Beau Schoenegge's body-camera footage shows that after a passing motorist directed police to the bar, a woman opened the door and said: "Please get him out of here, now." Police grabbed Tyson, and he resisted being handcuffed.

They restrained him—including with a knee on his back— and he immediately told officers he could not breathe.

Officers told Tyson he was fine, to calm down and to stop fighting as he was facedown with his legs crossed on the carpeted floor. Police were joking with bystanders and leafing through Tyson's wallet before realising he was in a medical crisis. Five minutes after the body-camera footage recorded Tyson saying "I can't breathe," one officer asked another if Tyson had calmed down. The other replied, "He might be out."

Tyson telling officers he was unable to breathe echoes the events preceding the death of George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis police in 2020. Tyson was Black, according to the coroner's office. e police department. *AP*

CLOSE SCRUTINY OF 'VERY LARGE' PLATFORMS

- Shein joins Facebook, TikTok, X, YouTube and others on a list of "very large online platforms" which have more than 45 million monthly active users in the European Union
- The EU has taken tougher action against China-linked companies in recent months
- Popular video sharing app TikTok, owned by China's ByteDance, has faced intense scrutiny in the European Union—and beyond

EU toughens safety rules for Chinese online retailer Shein

THE EUROPEAN UNION ON FRIDAY ADDED CHINESE-FOUNDED ONLINE RETAILER SHEIN TO ITS LIST OF DIGITAL COMPANIES THAT ARE BIG ENOUGH TO COME UNDER STRICTER SAFETY CURBS

108 million
MONTHLY ACTIVE USERS FOR SHEIN IN THE 27-NATION E.U.

DIGITAL SERVICES ACT

1. From the end of August—four months after the designation—Shein will have to abide by tougher rules set out in the Digital Services Act (DSA), one of the EU's landmark laws against online platforms
2. Under the DSA, the platforms must assess the specific risks posed to Europeans' rights and safety by the content they publish—or the products on sale in the case of online marketplaces like Amazon and Shein —and submit a report to regulators
3. They must also provide an external audit once a year to verify compliance

WESTERN RAILWAY

MATERIAL MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

VARIOUS MATERIALS SUPPLY

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE No. S/20/2024 Date 25.04.2024

S.N.	Short Description of Item	Quantity	T.O.D.
244	MANUFACTURE AND SUPPLY OF 10125 MM CURVED SWITCHES WITH ZU-1 -60 /60E1A1 THICK WEB TONGUE RAIL FOR 1 IN 12 TURNOUT BG	715 Set	06-May-2024
245	RELAY QBAC1	1011 Nos	06-May-2024
246	AMMONIA ALUM PURE CRYSTAL	84451 KG	07-May-2024
247	PORCELAIN 9 TONNE INSULATOR (RI 6020-1) (1050 MM CD) AS PER RDSO	749 Nos	08-May-2024
248	3 PHASE INDUCTION CONDENSER MOTOR	377 Nos	09-May-2024
249	1X18W LED FITTING WITH 4 FEET LONG LED TUBE MINIMUM 1440 LUMENS FOR PLATFORM LIGHTING	27683 Nos	09-May-2024
250	PHONIC WHEEL	606 Nos	10-May-2024
251	INVERTER BASED MIG MAG SYNERGIC PULSE WEDLDING PLANT AIR COOLED TORCH CAPACITY 400AMP	8 Nos	13-May-2024
252	PINION SHAFT FOR WAP7 LOCO 20 TEETH	386 Nos	13-May-2024
253	SET OF CABLE TERMINAL / SLEEVES FOR THIN WALLED	60 Set	14-May-2024
254	INDUCTIVE SHUNT ASSEMBLY	36 Nos	14-May-2024
255	O T LIGHTS FOR CVTS DEPTT	1 Nos	16-May-2024
256	SET OF SUSPENSION SPRINGS (HELICAL) FOR WAG-7 LOCO BOGIE.	35 Set	17-May-2024
257	REMOTE STATION EQUIPMENTS	19 Nos	20-May-2024
258	3-PHASE ASYNCHRONOUS TRACTION MOTOR.	22 Nos	20-May-2024
259	MODIFIED BRUSH HOLDER	312 Nos	20-May-2024
260	LIGHT DIESEL OIL	120 Ltr	20-May-2024
261	ALUMINIUM IMPELLER FOR OIL COOLING BLOWER UNIT	122 Nos	21-May-2024
262	CTRB BEARING FOR TRAIN-18/EMU-US BOGIES.	128 Nos	21-May-2024
263	AIR MOTOR COMPLETE WITH COVER ASSEMBLY	11 Set	22-May-2024
264	PUNCHED GRID PARMANANT FIELD DIVERTOR RESISTANCE	15 Nos	23-May-2024
265	EOT CRANE CAPACITY 10/3T	1 Nos	24-May-2024
266	SET OF AXLE BOX ASSEMBLY	8 Set	24-May-2024
267	SET OF 1500 AMP CAPACITY CTF-1, CTF-2 & CTF-3	8 Set	27-May-2024
268	REPAIR KIT FOR SPRING BRAKE	649 Set	28-May-2024

REVERSE AUCTION

21	MANUFACTURE AND SUPPLY OF METAL LINER 60 KG TO RDSO DRG. NO. T-3740 ALT-7	2600000 Nos	27-May-2024

Regarding detailed notice EMD, Purchase restrictions and detailed tender conditions, please visit website www.ireps.gov.in and www.wr.indianrailways.gov.in

0081

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ICICI Bank

Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited, 1st Floor, West Wing, DSMG, Mythri Centre, Hosur Main Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore- 560068

PUBLIC NOTICE - TENDER CUM E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSE

[See proviso to rule 8(6)]

Notice for sale of immovable asset

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the **Physical Possession** of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Limited. will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is", as per the brief particulars given hereunder;

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s) / Co Borrowers/ Guarantors Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price / Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of E-Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	M/s Shiva Shakthi Stores (Borrower) Mr. B S Kishore & Mrs. B S Prema Leela (Guarantors & Mortgagors) Loan Account No. 015660000056	All that piece and parcel of land and building in Mookonda Palli Village of Hosur Taluk, attached to the Registration District of Krishnagiri and Registration District of Hosur and also attached to the Village Panchayat limits of Mookandapalli and Union Council of Hosur. Sy No: 482/4, Dry Ext. Hec.0.21.0(Ac.0.52 cents) Asst. 0.71, belongs to the Vendor in the aforesaid manner and the said land has been converted into the house plots in which Plot No :78-A now being sold to the Vendee in the following boundaries and measurements. East: Private Property, West: Road, North: Plot Number: 77-A, South: Remaining Land belongs to the Vendor. Within these boundaries measuring: East to West on the north side: 15.6 feet, East to West on the south side: 10 feet, North to south on the east side: 56.0 feet, North to south on the west side: 56.0 feet, Total 714 square feet of vacant land covered under this deed of sale	Rs. 19,71, 615.00/- (as on April 01, 2024)	Rs. 13,24,000/- / Rs. 1,33,000/-	May 14, 2024 from 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM	May 29, 2024 from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM

The online auction will take place on the website of e-auction agency **M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited (URL Link-www.disposalhub.com).** The Mortgagors/ noticee are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till **May 28, 2024** before **04:00 PM** failing which, this/these secured asset/s will be sold as per schedule.

The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at **ICICI Bank Limited, 1st Floor, West Wing, DSMG, Mythri Centre, Hosur Main Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore- 560068** on or before **May 28, 2024** before **05:00 PM** and thereafter they need to submit their offer through the above mentioned website only on or before **May 28, 2024** before **05:00 PM** along with scan image of Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD. Kindly note, in case prospective bidder(s) are unable to submit their offer through the website then signed copy of tender documents may be submitted at **ICICI Bank Limited, 1st Floor, West Wing, DSMG, Mythri Centre, Hosur Main Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore- 560068** on or before **May 28, 2024** before **05:00 PM.** Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalised/Scheduled Bank in favour of **"ICICI Bank Limited"** payable at **Bangalore.**

For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the e-auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact **ICICI Bank Limited** on **9844542086/ 7304918084/ 8008999536.**

Please note that Marketing agencies **1. M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited** have also been engaged for facilitating the sale of this property.

The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit **www.icicibank.com/n4p4s**

Date: April 26, 2024
Place: Bangalore

Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that our client **Mr. Kikkeri Nanjappa Shetty Govindaraju S/o Nanjappa.,** is the absolute owner of the **Schedule Property** mentioned hereunder, having acquired the same via **Gift Deed dated 22/10/2021,** registered as document bearing **No. BGR-1-06269-2021-22,** in Book I, stored in C. D. No. BGRD1011, in the Office of the Sub Registrar, Begur, Bangalore, executed by his wife, Mrs. B. R. Hemavathi.

Our client is desirous of dealing with the Schedule Property by way of Sale/Mortgage or as he desires to do so. Any person/s entities having any claim, right, title or interest over the schedule properties or any part thereof in any manner objecting the Gift Deed or the ownership of our client over the Schedule Property may lodge their claim with documentary proof with the undersigned within 7 **days** from the date of this public notice and any claim or objection received thereafter will not be binding over the aforesaid properties.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing **Site No.458, Khatha No.41/47/280, House List No.280,** situated at **Channakeshava Nagar, Singasandra village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk,** Presently comes under the limits of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, measuring **East to West: 40 feet and North to South: 30 feet in total measuring 1200 square feet** and bounded on:

East by : Road
West by : Site No.433
North by : Site No.459
South by : Site No.457

Along with measuring **10 Sq.** constructed with RCC roofed house built in thereon constructed with cement and Bricks, Doors and Windows are made out with Jungle Woods with Vitrified flooring and with all civic amenities in the Schedule Property.

Vinod. R.,
ADVOCATE,
STERLING LAW PARTNERS,
#No. 1656, Balaji Nilayam, 1st Cross, Mariyappanpalya, Rajajinagar, Bangalore 560021 Call :7411531524

Place: Bengaluru Date: 26/04/2024

QuoteXpress
KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE STARS, AND YOUR FEET ON THE GROUND
) THEODORE ROOSEVELT

ASIA MATTERS

GOVT EXPECTS 30 MILLION VISITORS IN 2025

Malaysia is expecting a tourism rebound, thanks in part to strategic collaborations and partnerships within the airline sector. The country welcomed 20.1 million international tourists in 2023, generating a substantial revenue of 71.3 billion ringgit, TTG Asia reported. The government has set a tourism target of 31.4 million visitors and revenue of 125.5 billion ringgit for 2025, the website reported. China is the single largest point of origin for tourists visiting Malaysia. This year, the country is expecting more than 5 million visitors from China.

Market Watch

MARKET			GOLD			SILVER			FOREX		
609.28 ↓	Sensex	73,730.16	₹440 ↑	24 carat (10 gm)	₹72,860	₹2,000 ↑	1 kg	₹84,500	↑ Dollar	83.37
150.40 ↓	Nifty	22,419.95	₹400 ↑	22 carat (10 gm)	₹66,800	₹20 ↑	10 gm	₹845	↑ Euro	89.31

HC asks DGCA to deregister 54 leased Go First planes

Setback for creditors looking to recover unpaid dues by airline

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

IN a setback for Go First, the Delhi High Court on Friday directed the country's aviation regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) to go ahead with the process of deregistering 54 aircraft leased by the grounded airline within the next five working days.

"DGCA shall forthwith and not later than five working days process the deregistration applications filed by the 54 aircrafts," the court said. This order has the capability to derail the revival process of the airline as it would leave minuscule assets for the two interested bidders. It is also a big setback for creditors of the airline who were looking to trim their exposure from the insolvency process. Resolution professional of the airline, Shailendra Ajmera of consultancy firm EY, has admitted claims of ₹4,254 crore from the financial creditors. Including operational creditors, the total admitted claims stand at about ₹6,188 crore.

Two parties (a consortium led by SpiceJet's Ajay Singh and Nishant Pitti's Busy Bee Airways, and another one from Sharjah-based Sky One) have submitted bids to take over the airline. According to reports, Singh and Pitti have jointly submitted a bid of ₹1,600 crore for the airline.

"We will review the details of the order once we receive the official document. Following this review, we will evaluate our position and consider any necessary adjustments to our proposed offer for Go Air. Our commitment remains to proceed in a manner that respects the legal process and aligns with our strategic objectives," said Pitti on behalf of Busy Bee Airways. Pitti is co-founder and CEO of EaseMyTrip.

The order, however, offers a major relief to aircraft lessors who have been working to reclaim their aircraft for about a year now when the Wadia-family owned airline declared bankruptcy. Go First stopped flying on May 3, 2023, a day after it filed for bankruptcy. Justice Tara Vitasta Ganju, while orally pronouncing the order, restrained the resolution professional (RP) appointed under the insolvency law to manage the airline, and its directors from moving or taking away the planes or spare parts, documents, records and any other material.

The HC said the DGCA, Airport Authority of India and its authorised representatives shall aid and assist the petitioner lessors and grant them access to the airports.

Q4FY24 RESULTS

MSIL net up 48%; Chairman sees demand post elections

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

ON the back of robust sales volume and favourable commodity prices, the country's largest car maker - Maruti Suzuki India Ltd (MSIL) - on Friday reported a 48% increase in net profit for the March quarter of FY24 (Q4FY24) to ₹3,878 crore.

The auto major had reported a net profit of ₹2,624 crore in the year-ago period.

MSIL registered revenue of ₹38,235 crore in Q4FY24 as against ₹32,048 crore clocked in the same quarter last fiscal. Additionally, MSIL declared the company's highest-ever dividend of ₹125 per share.

Aided by increasing demand for SUVs, the maker of Baleno, Brezza and Grand Vitara models, sold 584,031 units in the March quarter, a jump of 13% year-on-year. For the first time, the company surpassed the annual total sales milestone of 2 million (20 lakh) units in the Financial Year 2024. For the entire FY24, MSIL's net profit grew by 64% to ₹13,209 crore as against ₹8,049 crore in FY23.

Total revenue surged 20% to ₹140,933 crore in the recently concluded fiscal as compared to ₹117,523 crore during FY23.

MSIL Chairman RC Bhargava said the car industry will continue to flourish. He believes that the new government which is coming up in less than two months will propel the economy to phenomenal levels. "The new government will have a very good base to go forward," said Bhargava even as many in the industry have forecasted a low single-digit growth for the ongoing fiscal.

Bhargawa also said MSIL is working closely with Suzuki Japan to achieve the target of four million car sales and export 750,000 - 800,000 units by FY30-31. He informed that MSIL's expansion plan at Kharkoda is proceeding smoothly and the first line is expected to start production before the end of this financial year and they should be able to add one new production line every 12 months or so.

The carmaker, which tasted with the hybrid technology, said Suzuki Japan is working on affordable hybrid solutions for compact cars. Suzuki is also considering plug-in hybrid technology for the future.

On falling EV sales in the global market, Bhargava said that EVs are one of the key technologies for reaching the carbon neutrality goals.

"All carmakers have accepted that they have to have EVs. How fast the market for EVs will grow is not only in the hands of manufacturers. It depends on the customers, the infrastructure and the government policies as well," stated Bhargava. MSIL is expected to launch its first EV in FY25.

SBI Card net profit rises 11% to ₹662 crore

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

SBI Card on Friday reported an 11% rise in net profit to ₹662 crore for the quarter ending March 2024. SBI Cards and Payment Services Ltd (SBI Card) had a profit of ₹596 crore in the fourth quarter of FY23.

Total revenue rose 14% to ₹4,475 crore in the fourth quarter of FY24, compared to ₹3,917 crore in the year-ago period. Interest income grew by 28% to ₹2,139 crore in Q4FY24. For the full 2023-24 fiscal, profit after tax (PAT) climbed 7% to ₹2,408 crore. The company had a profit of ₹2,258 crore in fiscal 2022-23.

The size of the company's balance sheet as of March 31, 2024, was ₹58,171 crore as against ₹45,546 crore in the same period last fiscal.

SBI Cards and Payment Services is an NBFC that offers credit card portfolio to individual cardholders and corporate clients which includes lifestyle, rewards, travel and fuel, and banking partnerships cards along with corporate cards.

ASIANOMICS

JAPAN

YEN SLIDES TO THREE DECADES LOW

The Japanese yen fell to its weakest level in three decades on Friday. The markets are on edge due to possible intervention after the Bank of Japan kept interest rates on hold. The currency was down 0.66% at 156.67, after briefly rising to 154.97, after hitting minutes earlier its lowest level of 156.82 per dollar since 1990. Yen last traded near its weakest level in nearly 16 years against the euro, at 168.23, and its softest in 11 years against Australian dollar. The sudden jump left traders on high alert for signs of intervention. It was not immediately clear what caused the move. After a two-day meeting, BOJ left its short-term rate target at 0-0.1% on Friday and made small upward adjustments in its inflation forecast. Investors had not expected a policy shift but took decision as confirmation that only small moves lie ahead. BOJ Governor Kazuo Ueda told a press conference after the rate decision that monetary policy didn't directly target currency rates, but exchange-rate volatility could have a major impact on the economy and prices.

SINGAPORE

CORE INFLATION TO FALL IN Q4

Core inflation rate in Singapore is expected to remain at elevated levels in the coming quarters before falling more discernibly in the fourth quarter and into 2025, the country's central bank said in its macroeconomic review on Friday. The Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS), which left its monetary policy unchanged earlier this month, said both core and headline inflation were expected to come in at an average of 2.5–3.5% in 2024. The annual core inflation rate was 3.1% in March, lower than 3.6% in February. The central bank said that despite the pace of economic growth easing in the first quarter, it expected the economy's prospects to improve as 2024 progressed. The central bank noted there were both upside and downside risks to the inflation outlook. It said shocks to global food and energy prices or stronger-than-expected labour demand in the financial hub could add to inflation pressures, while an unexpected weakening in the global economy could lead to a faster easing of cost and price pressures.

SRI LANKA

APPROVES IMF-BACKED LAW TO SEIZE CRIME PROCEEDS

Sri Lanka has approved a new law to seize any proceeds from criminal activities, a cabinet spokesperson said on Friday. The new law is backed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The country is under IMF's watch list with regards to its fiscal management. The new law was proposed as part of efforts under the IMF programme to improve governance. The law is part of conditions Sri Lanka has to fulfill to take forward a $2.9 billion program with the IMF after its economy crumpled under the worst financial crisis in decades, caused by a severe fall in foreign exchange reserves. The island nation is also in the midst of restructuring about $12 billion foreign debt with bondholders after defaulting in May 2022. The Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) will allow for the judicial freezing and forfeiture of proceeds of crime and establishes a new authority to manage such seized assets. The governance diagnostic under the IMF program is the first undertaken by the global lender in Asia. Sri Lanka's central bank said it is paramount that the country stick to its Extended Fund Facility agreement with the IMF and complete its debt restructuring process, in a new report released on Thursday.

Forex kitty falls $2.28 billion to $640.33 billion

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE country's forex reserves decreased by $2.282 billion to $640.334 billion for the seven days ending April 19 in the second consecutive week of drop in the kitty, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said on Friday.

Reserves had declined by $5.401 billion to $643.162 billion in the previous reporting week, ending a multi-week trend of an increase, which also saw the overall reserves touching a new all-time high of $648.562 billion for the week ending April 5.

In September 2021, the country's forex kitty had reached a high of USD 642.453 billion, which was breached in March this year. The reserves took a hit as the central bank deployed the kitty to defend the rupee amid pressures caused majorly by global events, but there had been a steady accretion over the past few months. For the week ending April 19, foreign currency assets, a major component of reserves, fell by $3.793 billion to $560.86 billion.

HCLTech net profit flat at ₹4K cr; dividend ₹18/share

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Bengaluru

HCLTech on Friday posted flat net profit at ₹3,986 crore for the March quarter. Net profit in the year-ago period was ₹3,983 crore. Revenue from operations for the quarter increased 7% to ₹28,499 crore as against ₹26,606 crore in Q4FY23.

Its company constant currency revenue growth expected to be between 3% and 5% YoY in FY25 and EBIT margin expected to be between 18% and 19%.

Addressing a media conference, C Vijayakumar, CEO & MD, HCLTech, said, "We continue to remain optimistic of the opportunities ahead of us. Some of the large deals we won will move into a global delivery model in FY25 which will reduce revenue."

He added that the macro environment might be similar to FY24. "As we look ahead, global enterprise technology spend will only grow with adoption of AI. We are well positioned to capitalise with our AI led propositions, Global delivery model and ideal mix of technology services and products," he added. Its EBIT in Q4 stood at ₹5,018 crore (17.6% of revenue), up 3.8% YoY and new deals wins at $2,290 million. HCLTech has won 21 new large deals.

Unlike its peers, the company has added 3,096 freshers in the quarter and in FY24, it has added 12,141 freshers. Its net addition in Q4 was 2,725. The IT company's attrition in the quarter was 12.4%, down from 19.5% in Q4 of last year. Ramachandran Sundararajan, chief people officer, HCLTech, said fresher hiring in FY25 will be similar to FY24 and that they will visit campus this fiscal.

TMB profit up 4% to ₹2,349 cr

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

TAMIL NADU-based Tamilnad Mercantile Bank posted 4% growth in net profit in FY24 to ₹1,072 crore as against ₹1,029 crore a year ago. Total income rose from ₹4,710 crore in FY23 to ₹5,493 crore FY24. Interest income improved to ₹4,848 crore in FY24 from ₹4,081 crore a year ago. Total business has increased to ₹89,485 crore in FY24 from ₹85,348 crore a year-ago. CASA rose to ₹14,676 crore in FY24 from ₹13,736 crore in FY23. On asset quality, gross NPA as a percentage of total advances stood at 1.44 % (as against 1.39% in FY23) and net NPA stood at 0.85% (against 0.62% in FY23). Total SMA (special mention account) to gross advances has reduced to 3.97% from 6.51%, while stressed assets ratio decreased to 2.70% from 3.18%.

Shriram Finance profit rises 57%

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Mumbai

THE country's largest auto-focused non-bank lender Shriram Finance on Friday reported a 57% jump in consolidated net income to ₹2,021.28 crore on better asset quality and stable margins coupled with higher income led by incremental loan sales in Q4FY24. Consolidated net interest income for the quarter rose 22.27% to ₹ 5,543.47 crore as against ₹4,533.63 crore in the same period previous year. Disbursals clipped at a tad over 15 percent on-year. For the full year, consolidated profit after tax rose 20.26% to ₹7,190.48 crore as against ₹5,979.34 crore in the previous year. Total assets under management rose 21.10% to ₹224,862 crore as against ₹185,682.86 crore in March 2023 and ₹214,233.47 crore in December, 2023.

RBI issues draft guidelines on digital lending for aggregators

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Mumbai

TO bring in the much-needed transparency in the cut-throat digital lending space that has seen many malpractices, the Reserve Bank on Friday issued draft guidelines for those operating with multiple partners/aggregators so that they give a digital view of the loans they offer to customers.

The banking regulator, in a draft circular on digital lending called 'Digital lending – transparency in aggregation of loan products from multiple lenders,' said the identity of a potential lender may not be known to a borrower in cases where a lending service provider (LSP) has arrangements with multiple lenders. This comes on the back of the regulator's observation that many LSPs offering aggregation services for loan products have outsourcing arrangements with multiple lenders.

As per RBI, a digital view will provide a host of details to ensure that customers have prior information about potential lenders to make an informed decision on a loan product. These details include names of the regulated entities extending the loan offer, amount and tenor of the loan, the annual percentage rate (APR), and other key terms and conditions that enable a borrower to make a fair comparison between various offers. "A link to the key facts statement (KFS) shall be provided in respect of each of the lender," RBI said in its draft guidelines. It has said the content displayed by LSPs should be unbiased and not promote products of a particular lender and they should not use any deceptive practices such as dark patterns that mislead borrowers into choosing a particular loan. The regulator has sought public/industry opinion/ comments to the draft guidelines by May 31, 2024.

IT firms focus on 'Gen AI'

UMA KANNAN @ Bengaluru

GENERATIVE AI has now become a part of every conversation that IT firms are having with their clients. IT firms recently in Q4 earnings call announced that excitement over this technology is substantial.

"Gen AI is steadfastly at the forefront of the technology trends and customers are on the lookout for POCs (proof of concept) on the efficiencies that can be enabled by Gen AI in application development, application maintenance and deployment automation," said K Krithivasan, CEO and MD, TCS

> **We don't disclose revenue element of that work externally. What we are doing today is working across a large number of projects**
>
> Salil Parekh, MD & CEO, Infosys

Gen AI's ability to create new data and content is driving innovation across sectors. TCS is currently developing AI and Gen AI projects worth $900 million. Accenture recently reported $1.1 billion in revenue in new bookings from Gen AI in first half of the year (it follows Sept-Aug financial year).

On Gen AI, the work we are doing is quite comprehensive, said Salil Parekh, CEO and MD, Infosys.

"We don't disclose revenue element of that work externally. However, what we are doing today is working across a large number of projects with several of our clients on not just proof of concept, but on actual programs, which they are deploying across the enterprise," he said .He added that the 3 million lines of codes that we have generated via large language models in Gen AI is absolutely industry leading. Wipro, Tech Mahindra and HCLTech too in their earnings call spoke about Gen AI and its significance.

Coal imports for blending purposes decline 3.4% as supply improves

POWER EQUATION

Total coal production and supply in financial year 2023-24

Total coal production	58.94
Total offtake	64.56
Coal dispatch to power sector	51.81
Coal dispatch to non-power sectors	12.75
Coal stock position	154.37
Stock at thermal power plant*	46.88
Coal import for blending	1.42

All figs in Million tonnes (MT)

*Domestic coal based

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

THE abundance of coal in the country has led to decline in imports for blending purposes by the domestic power plants in the first three weeks (till April 22, 2024) of this month. This comes despite high demand for power due to a heat wave in the country.

According to the data from the coal ministry, imports declined to 1.42 million tonne (MT) till April 2024, 3.4% lower than 1.47 MT in the same period last year. The power ministry mandated generating companies (gencos) to blend imported coal in thermal power plants to prevent a coal crisis during the peak summer season.

Not only this, the supply to the non-power sector also surged by 28% to 12.75 MT till 22 April 2024. Official data reveals that supplies to the non-regulated sector (NRS), which includes industries like cement, steel, sponge iron, and aluminium, stood at 9.93 MT during the same period last year.

"Coal availability is high in the country this year, and there are no restrictions on prioritizing supply to the power sector. This is why coal dispatch to the non-power sector has skyrocketed this month," said an official. The official also mentioned that coal price in the international market declined by 30% from the last year. The price drop of the international coal led imported coal based (ICB) power plants run in the full capacity. Compare to the last, the power generation by imported coal based (ICB) power plants almost doubled from the last year.

Reliance Industries' Ebitda halving to 8% this fiscal: Fitch

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Mumbai

THE country's largest corporate Reliance Industries, which is the first company to cross ₹10 lakh crore mark in topline and ₹1 lakh crore in pretax profit in FY24, is likely to see its pre-tax profit halving to 8% this fiscal from 16.1% in FY24 but jumping to 14% in FY26 on falling capex amid rising cash flows, Fitch Ratings has said.

In FY24, the company reported a record consolidated topline of ₹1,000,122 crore or $119.9 billion, which was 2.6% up year-on-year and a consolidated Ebitda of ₹178,677 crore or $21.4 billion, a rise of 16.1% YoY and an annual pretax profit of ₹1,04,727 crore or $12.6 billion, which was 11.4% more than last fiscal. Increasing cash flows and lower capex will have net leverage likely remaining below 1x in medium term, supported by rising cash flows and lower capex intensity, even as its absolute capex and investments remain high in near term.

"We expect RIL's Ebitda to rise by 8% YoY in FY25 and double in FY26 with a 14% jump, while capex intensity, which is capex to revenue, is likely to come down below 13% by FY26 from 15.3% in FY24. Lower capex intensity will be driven by growing revenue and reduction in capex after FY25." The agency expects the pre-tax growth to be led, in percentage terms, by the retail arm with 20-25% jump followed by digital services, largely telecom, with a 10-15% and those from cash cow oil and petchem segment to remain above ₹60,000 crore in FY25, down from ₹62,400 crore in FY24.

TO WHOM SO EVER IT MAY CONCERN

That our Clients, **Late Mr. AVM Jagannathan Vasudevan and Mrs. Leela Vasudevan** are the sole and absolute owners of Apartment No.D-423, First Floor, Jal Vayu Vihar, BDA Layout, with super built-up area of 120.92 sq mtrs inclusive of 13.99 sq mtrs of garage alongwith 64.97 sq mtrs of undivided share of the land, situated at Kacharakanahalli Village, Bangalore North Taluk, and having purchased the same from The Airforce Naval Housing Board, under a registered Sale Deed dated 18th June 1996, 9th September 1998, which is registered as Document No.957 of 1996-97, in Book-I, Volume 5638, at pages 85-96, in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore North Taluk.

Our Clients are currently unable to trace the Original Sale Deed dated 18th June 1996 in respect of the abovementioned Apartment. Hence, we are no longer in our possession the Original Sale Deed as stated above pertaining to the aforesaid Apartment.

Our Clients have already lodged a police complaint regarding this before the Bangalore City Police. If any one has found the above document, we request them to hand over the same to the under signed person. As such our Clients have already obtained the certified copy of the Sale Deed from the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Rajajinagar (Peenya), on 18th April 2024 vide Certified Copy No. 358 of 2024 and the said certified copy will be treated as the original document in the abovementioned circumstances.

RAMESH .T , Partner,
LEX ASTRA PARTNERS & ASSOCIATES,
LEX ASTRA
office at
High Point 3, Flat 3111,
11th Floor, 45, Palace Road,
Bangalore 560001. Mobile 9845329685

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that **Mr. Ananthram Pottipati Reddy, Ms. Keerthi Pottipati Reddy, Mrs. Rama Reddy Raghavan and Mrs. Chitra Reddy ["Owners"]** are the absolute owners in peaceful possession of all that piece and parcel of Vacant Property bearing **Municipal No. 59** (Old Municipal No. 55 and earlier No. 490/672), having BBMP PID No. 7-14-59, situated at 8th Cross, 4th Main Road, **Malleshwaram**, Ward No. 65 Kadumalleshwara, Bengaluru – 560 003, measuring East - West: 140 Feet and North - South: 160 Feet, in all **measuring 22,400 Square Feet** (approximately 2,081.01 Square Meters), hereinafter referred as **'Said Property'.**

The Owners confirm that they have misplaced / lost the Original Gift Deed dated 12th October 1953, registered as document No. 2590 of 1953-54, in Book No. I, Volume No. 1299, at pages 75 to 77, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore City, pertaining to the Said Property. In this regard, the Owners had lodged a Police Complaint on 14th September 2018 vide Lost Report No. 160763/2018, before Crime Branch, Bangalore City Police, Bangalore.

The **General Public** is hereby notified that any transaction/s without the notice of the Owners hereinabove, in respect of the Said Property is void ab initio and not maintainable. Under the circumstances, the Owners are hereby considering the **Certified Copy No. 2750 of 2018-19**, dated 27th July 2018, issued by the Sub-Registrar, Gandhinagar, Bangalore, be treated as '**ORIGINAL**' with respect to the aforesaid misplaced/ lost Original Gift Deed, pertaining to the Said Property.

Further any person/s having any claim/s or interest over the Said Property, based on the above misplaced Original Gift Deed and/or in possession of the Original Gift Deed, shall contact below mentioned address within **seven (7) days** from date from the date of publication and if the Owners do not receive any objection/s, claim/s or whatsoever, within the stipulated period, it shall be construed that there are no claim/s from general public and the Owners shall proceed with encumbering the Said Property in the manner as they deem fit and proper.

If anyone attempts to create any kind of encumbrances with respect to the Said Property, relying on the aforesaid Original Gift Deed, such person/s shall be liable to be punished under law and if anybody finds the Original Gift Deed, kindly return it to undersigned and also hereby call upon that if any person/s or Bank/s or Financial Institution/s have any claim/s, rights, interest or whatsoever in respect of the Said Property, they may contact with documentary proof within stipulated period as stated above.

Dated this day of 27th April 2024.

ILP

Mr. Nandakumar
India Law Practice - ILP
Advocates and Attorneys
No. 190, 4th Floor, J P Square, Sankey Road, Sadashivanagar, Bengaluru 560080

MISSING

Divya.P.V age 39, W/o Achuthan, Chenamkandath House, Cherumundassery, Ambalappara, Palakkad, Kerala. A case has been registered under Cr. 1364/2023 U/s 57 KP Act of Ottapalam Police Station in Palakkad Dist., Kerala.
If any information in regard, inform the same to the phone numbers given below.

1) DySP Shornur - 0466 2222409
2) Inspector SHO Ottapalam PS - 9497987156
3) SI of Police Ottapalam PS - 9497980621
4) Ottapalam Police Station - 9497934004

Marks of Identification: Hight - 170 CM, Medium Colour, Dress Code - Saree and Blouse (Blue Colour), Speaking Malayalam Language.

Ro/172/F2/2024/I&PRD

MAHATRANSCO E-TENDER NOTICE

Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.

MSETCL invites online bids (E-Tender) for following

S.N	Tender No. & Description
1	RFx No. 7000030929; supply, installation, testing and commissioning of fire hydrant system in 400kV & 220kV switchyard at 400kV Chandrapur 2 substation and in 400kV switchyard at switching substation under 400kV RS O&M Division II Chandrapur, EMD Rs.2312092/- and Tender Fees: Rs.25000/-

In continuation to this office RFx (e-tender) Notice dated 17.03.2024, Due date for online submission of RFx No. 7000030929 extended upto 10.05.2024, 17:00 Hrs; Tenders Available at : https://srmetender.mahatransco.in, all other terms condition remain unchanged.

--Sd--
Chief Engineer, EHV PC O&M Zone Nagpur

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

Chennai Division (Project Organisation)
Tender Notice MSDAC

Sl. No.	Description of Work	Item No.1
1	Name of the Work	Provision of MSDAC with existing DCTC at Stations (To serve as Dual detection) and Replacing balance AFTCs in MAS GDR & MSB-TBM automatic block signalling sections of Chennai Division in Southern Railway
2	E-Tender No.	**PROJ MS_MSDAC_MAS_R2_2404 Dated: 16.05.2024**
3	Estimated cost of the work	Rs. 88,64,16,340.56/-
4	Bidding System	Two Stage Reverse Auction
5	Earnest money (EMD)	Rs. 45,82,100.00/-
6	completion period	18 Months
7	Pre Bid Conference	Date: 30.04.2024 Time: 12:00 Hrs.
8	Last date and Time of online submission (closing) of tender document	16.05.2024 up to 15:00 Hrs.
9	Website address, time and Date from which tender documents will be available	On Indian Railway Website i.e, **www.ireps.gov.in** from 24.04.2024
10	Validity of offers	90 Days

Note: The detailed Tender Notice, Tender document along with terms & conditions and if any corrigendum to tender is issued can be accessed through **(www.ireps.gov.in).**

Deputy Chief Signal & Telecommunication Engineer,
Project, Chetpet, Chennai-31

Canara Bank

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
Syndicate

SPECIALISED ASSET RECOVERY MANAGEMENT BRANCH, HUBBALLI

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

Ref:CB/ARMB/HUB/F.No-31/2024-25/DK **Date:25/04/2024**

Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Specialised Asset Recovery Management Branch, Hubballi, Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and " Whatever there is" basis on **29/05/2024**, for recovery of the current Liability of Rs. 4,40,82,974/- (Rupees Four Crores Fourty Lakhs Eighty Two Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy Four only) plus further interest and cost/charges from 01/04/2024 due to the Canara Bank, Specialised Asset Recovery Management Branch, Hubballi (The account since transferred from Hospet Branch) from Borrower **M/s M. G. Traders and Exporters** Office at 23/03, Old Door No. 1784, Giriyabovipalya, Nazarbad Mohalla, Mysore-570011 represented by its Proprietor (i) Sri M Gopal S/o Sri M Madappa, R/o M.P.P Prakash Nagar, Hospet, Karnataka-583201 (ii) M Venkatesh S/o Sri M Madappa, R/o 23/03, Old Door no. 1784, Giriyabovipalya, Nazarbad Mohalla, Mysore, Karnataka -570011 (iii) Smt. Renuka (Since Deceased) Represented by Legal Hier Sri Ravinatha G.K R/o 23/03, Old Door no. 1784, Giriyabovipalya, Nazarbad Mohalla, Mysore, Karnataka -570011 .

Details and full description of the immovable property

All that Part and Parcel of Land and Building bearing House No.1781(Old), admeasuring 900 Sq fts situated at Giriyabovi Palya, Nazarbad Mohalla, Mysore-570011. The property is in the name of Sri M Gopal. **The property is bounded by: East: Road, West: Conservancy, North: Property of Rama Bovi, South: Lakshmi Temple**

Reserve Price:38.98 lakhs EMD :3.90 lakhs

Last date for payment of EMD is 28/05/2024 for all the properties aforementioned.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website **www.canarabank.com** or may contact Chief Manager, Canara Bank Specialized Asset Recovery Management Branch, Hubballi, **Phone No. (9480696809, 9874084535, 7903600526 & 9008223722)** during office hours on any working day.

Date:25.04.2024 **Sd/- Authorised officer**
Place:HUBBALLI **CANARA BANK**

ADITYA BIRLA CAPITAL

PROTECTING INVESTING FINANCING ADVISING

ADITYA BIRLA FINANCE LIMITED

Registered Office : Indian Rayon Compound, Veraval, Gujarat-362266
Branch Office: No.1(78), Star Avenue, 6th Cross, Victoria Layout, Bangalore- 560047

"APPENDIX- IV-A"
[See proviso to rule 8 (6)]
Sale notice for sale of immovable property

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Asset under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) read with Rule 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical Possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Aditya Birla Finance Limited the Secured Creditor on **22.11.2023** will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis on **31st May, 2024** for recovery of **Rs. 2,38,91,953/- (Rupees Two Crore Thirty Eight Lakh Ninety One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty Three Only)** as on **19.04.2024** and further interest and other expenses thereon till the date of realization due to the Secured Creditor from **Borrowers/Co-Borrowers/Guarantors** Namely **SHIVA AUTO PARTS, Mr. Thimmegowda Thirganalli Srikanth, and Mrs. Chikkanahalli Mahesh Rani.**

The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit will be as follows:

Description of the immovable property	Reserve Price	Earnest Money Deposit
"All that piece and parcel of the Property Situated at Bearing House list Nos. 56 & 57, measuring East to West (66+56)/2 feet and North to South (36+25)/2 feet, admeasuring 1860 square feet formed in land bearing Survey No. 79/2 of Valagerahalli Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, bounded on. East by : Property bearing Site No. 58 ; West by: Property bearing Site No. 55 ; North by: Mysore Road ; South by: Property bearing Site No. 54"	**Rs. 3,00,15,845/-**	**Rs. 30,01,584.50/-**

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Secured Creditor website i.e.
https://mortgagefinance.adityabirlacapital.com/Pages/Individual/Properties-for-Auction-under-SARFAESI-Act.aspx also on the website of https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net

Date: 26.04.2024 **Authorised Officer**
Place: Bangalore **(Aditya Birla Finance Limited)**
Loan Account Numbers: ABFLBANLAP0000124474 **(9686701466)**

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

CORRIGENDUM

Tender Notice No.	Item Sl. No	Tender Number/ due Date	Item	Field Name	Existing	Read As
E-04/ 2024	46	44240613/ 19/04/2024	K-TYPE COMPOSITION BRAKE BLOC	CLOSING DATE/TIME	19/04/2024 - 14.30	03/05/2024 - 14.30
E-04/ 2024	44	04240526/ 19/04/2024	PUSH TYPE FLUSHING VALVE	CLOSING DATE/TIME	19/04/2024 - 14.30	03/05/2024 - 14.30

Principal Chief Materials Manager

IDFC FIRST Bank Limited

IDFC FIRST Bank

(erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited) | CIN : L65110TN2014PLC097792
Registered Office: - KRM Towers, 8th Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai- 600031.
Tel : +91 44 4564 4000 | Fax: +91 44 4564 4022

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13 (2) OF THE SECURITIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002

The following borrowers and co-borrowers availed the below mentioned secured loans from **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited)** The loans of the below-mentioned borrowers and co- borrowers have been secured by the mortgage of their respective properties. As they have failed to adhere to the terms and conditions of the respective loan agreements and had become irregular, their loan were classified as NPA as per the RBI guidelines. Amounts due by them to **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited)** are mentioned as per respective notices issued more particularly described in the following table and further interest on the said amounts shall also be applicable and the same will be charged as per contractual rate with effect from their respective dates.

Sr No.	Loan Account No.	Type of Loan	Name of borrowers and co-borrowers	Section 13 (2) Notice Date	Outstanding amount as per Section 13 (2) Notice
1	66185632	Loan Against Property	1. Shivakumar S 2. Pushpa S	28.02.2024	INR 18,78,891.14/-

Property Address

All That Piece And Parcel Of The Property Bearing No. 286/254, Having Fdpr Unique Code No./property No. And E Katha No.152900101100600280, According To Form No.11b Issued By The Office Of The Rural Development & Panchayath Raj, Iggalur Grama Panchayathi, Situated At Saraguru Village, Channapatna Taluk And Ramanagara Disrict, Karnataka-562138, Measuring East To West 15.8496 Mtr. And North To South 17.6784 Mtr., In Total Measuring 280.20 Sq. Meters And Thereon Building Measuring 149.76 Sq. Meters. The Property is Bounded On The: **East : Government Road, West : Land Of Gowramma , North : House Of Sundramma, South : House And Space Of Dyavegowda**

You are hereby called upon to pay the amounts to **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited)** as per the details shown in the above table with contracted rate of interest thereupon from their respective dates and other costs, charges etc., within 60 days from the date of this publication, failing which the undersigned shall be constrained to initiate proceedings, under Section 13 (4) and section 14 of the SARFAESI Act, against the mortgaged properties mentioned hereinabove to realize the amount due to **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited)** . Further you are prohibited under Section 13 (13) of the said Act from transferring the said secured assets either by way of sale/lease or otherwise.

Sd/-
Authorized Officer
IDFC First Bank Limited
(erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited)

Date : 27.04.2024
Place : Ramanagara, Karnataka

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No.BE-29-2024-25-OT-02

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Description of work	Approx. Value
Provision of energy efficient electrical fixtures , occupancy/ motion sensors and solar street lights at IRIDM/HJL in connection with sustainable buildings, Provision of energy efficient BLDC ceiling fans in place of conventional ceiling fans in service buildings over Bengaluru Division & Bengaluru Cantonment Proposed Construction of New RPF Barrack 50 beds - Electrical arrangements	**Rs. 50,60,225/-**

Last date for submission of bids :
Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 13-05-2024

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Keep visiting the website for any corrigendum till closing date

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer
PUB/35/AAD/PRB/SWR/2024-25 **Bengaluru**

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

QuoteExpress

OPPORTUNITY DOES NOT KNOCK, IT PRESENTS ITSELF WHEN YOU BEAT DOWN THE DOOR

KYLE CHANDLER

FEDBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LTD. AUCTION NOTICE

This is to inform the public at large, that FEDBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LTD., has decided to conduct Auction of Gold ornaments belonging to accounts (mentioned below) which have become overdue or which have defaults or margin breach of customers. The Auction would be held at respective Branches specified below on **Wednesday 08-05-2024 between 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m.** This would continue till the auction process is over.

Anekal 080-27830505 **FEDGL0088**0004434, 0004437, 0004448, 0004452 **Arakalgud** 08175-220780 **FEDGL0036**0011372, 0011376, 0011394, 0011396, 0011398, 0011400, 0011401, 0011407, 0011408, 0011413, 0011417, 0011421, 0011422, 0011432 **Arasikere** 08174-299941 **FEDGL0414**0002947, 0002954, 0002966, 0003477, 0004063, 0004595 **B H Road** 8162277793 **FEDGL0103**0011770, 0015817, 0015865 **BASAVESHWARA NAGAR** 080 41900282 **FEDGL0011**0011081, 0011988, 0011993 **BELGAUM** 0831 4201487 **FEDGL0136**0005446, 0005449 **BELUR** 08177 222100 **FEDGL0159**0009968, 0009970, 0009973, 0009976, 0009988 **BOMMANAHALLI** 080 41500417 **FEDGL0014**0007103, 0007106, 0007107, 0007109, 0007426 **BTM LAYOUT** 080-41312231 **FEDGL0003**0006138, 0006152, 0006156, 0006988, 0006992, 0007005 **BYADGI** 8375229022 **FEDGL0051**0010432, 0010434, 0010467, 0011081, 0011746, 0011765, 0011798, 0012398 **Caltex Circle** 8162277972 **FEDGL0102**0010806, 0010827, 0010870, 0010879, 0010880, 0011882, 0012927, 0012942, 0012993, 0014013 **Car Street Bellary** 8392276005 **FEDGL0092**0004784, 0003781, 0003794, 0004450, 0004760, 0004785, 0004786, 0004196 **CHANNAPATNA** 080 27256046 **FEDGL0176**0018836, 0020282 **CHENRAYAPATNA** 08176 252477 **FEDGL0158**0021349, 0021351, 0021360, 0021407, 0021415, 0021423, 0021431, 0021432, 0021433, 0022230, 0022873, 0023454 **CHIKKAMAGALUR** 08262 228286 **FEDGL0021**0007336, 0007337, 0007362, 0007364, 0007365 **DAVANGERE** 08192-252111 **FEDGL0229**0009199, 0009205, 0009213 **dharwad** 0836 -2970229 **FEDGL0233**0005544, 0005545, 0005566 **Gadag** 08372-200075 **FEDGL0420**0003204, 0003205, 0003208, 0003946, 0004530 **Gangavathi** 8533234018 **FEDGL0094**0004773, 0004777, 0004799, 0004804, 0004806, **FEDBD0094**0000039 **Gubbi** 8131222850 **FEDGL0046**0015849, 0012256, 0012257, 0012261, 0012276, 0012293, 0012299, 0012300, 0012307, 0012311, 0012319, 0012320, 0012321, 0012326, 0012339, 0012360, 0012367, 0012368, 0012389, 0014754, 0015844, 0012073 **Gundalpete** 08229-295128 **FEDGL0383**0002996, 0003010, 0004466, 0004467, 0004521, 0004522 **Hagaribommanhalli** 08397-239003 **FEDGL0100**0011339, 0009093, 0009094, 0009104, 0009105, 0009108, 0009111, 0009114, 0009126, 0009143, 0010626, 0010633, 0011299, 0011322, 0011463, 0011646 **HANSUR** 08222 250114 **FEDGL0162**0016422 **Harappanahalli** 8398281429 **FEDGL0104**0008931, 0008932 **HASSAN MARKET** 08172 235324 **FEDGL0157**0012284, 0012290, 0012300, 0012301, 0012302, 0012303, 0012309, 0012336, 0012343 **HAVERI** 8375232810 **FEDGL0181**0010248, 0010263, 0010268, 0010277, 0011673 **HENNUR** 080-41979377 **FEDGL0015**0004546, 0005163, 0005177 **Holenarsipura** 08175-273733 **FEDGL0059**0020166, 0020175, 0020202, 0020214, 0020222, 0020257, 0023342 **HOSA ROAD** 080-257444811 **FEDGL0002**0013630 **Hosadurga** 8199200023 **FEDGL0412**0003615, 0003619, 0003624, 0003627, 0003661 **Hospet** 08394-226899 **FEDGL0099**0007258, 0007267, 0007283, 0007284, 0007296, 0008387, 0008917 **K R NAGAR** 08223 262045 **FEDGL0161**0011560, 0011577, 0011585, 0012635 **K R Pete** 08230-262886 **FEDGL0063**0007468, 0007480, 0008395 **K R PURAM** 080 25610669 **FEDGL0012**0012412, 0012413, 0012422, 0012425, 0012430, 0013448, 0013867, 0013893, 0013897, **FEDDS0012**0000077 **K R ROAD** 8192272223 **FEDGL0037**0005580, 0006199, **FEDDS0037**0000070 **Kadur** 08267-200280 **FEDGL0487**0002576, 0003903 **Kampli** 08394-250822 **FEDGL0095**0007211, 0007222, 0007223, 0008848, 0008891, 0008899 **KOPIKAR ROAD** 8362362444 **FEDGL0155**0008567, 0007554, 0007559, 0007583, 0007892, 0007893, 0007478 **Koppal** 8539200090 **FEDGL0403**0001948, 0001949, 0001960, 0001962, 0001963, 0001964, 0001969, 0001982, 0001985, 0002433, 0003161, 0003162, 0003163 **Kudligi** 08391-299920 **FEDGL0404**0003551, 0003554, 0003555, 0003561, 0003566, 0003590, 0003597, 0003602, 0003605, 0003606, 0003613, 0006079 **KUnigal** 08162-220155 **FEDGL0121**0008053, 0008081, 0008084, 0008086, 0008087, 0008092, 0008097, 0008101, 0010571 **Laxmeshwara** 8487200005 **FEDGL0407**0001522, 0001847, 0001868, 0002533, 0002536 **Madhugiri** 8137200547 **FEDGL0393**0004797, 0004819, 0004822, 0004829, 0004838, 0004843, 0004861, 0007938, 0007942, 0008001 **Malavalli** 08321-244588 **FEDGL0365**0004557, 0004580, 0005136 **Malebennur** 08192-299566 **FEDGL0062**0010769, 0010793, 0011886, 0011917 **MANDIMOHALLA** 8214264270 **FEDGL0174**0009073 **MANDYA** 08232 239585 **FEDGL0163**0007848, 0007860, 0007873 **Mundargi** 08371-295011 **FEDGL0064**0007771, 0007775, 0007780, 0007798, 0007819, 0009180 **NANJANGODE** 08221 223326 **FEDGL0160**0013867, 0015192 **Nelamangala** 08029911005 **FEDGL0392**0002132, 0002133, 0002150, 0002957, 0003354 **Pavagada** 08136-295608 **FEDGL0377**0006890, 0006892, 0006910, 0006912, 0006935, 0006960, 0006962, 0006966, 0006967, 0009821 **Periapatna** 08223-297589 **FEDGL0044**0007886, 0007895, 0008575 **RAJAJI NAGAR** 080 41902910 **FEDGL0004**0004170, 0004443 **RAMANAGARA** 080 27275627 **FEDGL0180**0021912, 0021916, 0021931, 0021941, 0021942, 0021947, 0021959, 0021961 **RAMASWAMY CIRCLE** 8214253754 **FEDGL0173**0006985 **RANEBENNUR** 08373 - 297397 **FEDGL0232**0010295, 0010297, 0010302, 0011257, 0011290 **SHIMOGA** 081 23115765 **FEDGL0183**0010342, 0010345, 0011156, 0011183 **Sindhanur** 08535-200110,8880890891 **FEDGL0461**0002094, 0002103, 0002105, 0002110, 0002138, 0002145, 0002588, 0003514 **Sira** 08135-295620 **FEDGL0376**0006661, 0006695, 0006700, 0006720, 0006721, 0006727, 0006738, 0006740, 0006741, 0006744, 0006750, 0006751, 0008912, 0009989, 0009995, 0010030, 0010055, **FEDBD0376**0000019 **SIRSI** 08384-223365 **FEDGL0193**0007089, 0007091, 0007093, 0007094, 0007096, 0007100, 0007101, 0007107, 0007113 **Srinivasa Nagar** 080-26693369 **FEDGL0089**0003890 **SULTHANPLYA** 080 41636281 **FEDGL0013**0005145, 0005935, 0006313 **Tarikere** 08261-200233 **FEDGL0415**0002539, 0002540, 0002564, 0002566 **Tiptur** 8134252402 **FEDGL0047**0008492, 0008961, 0009015, 0009557 **Turuvekere** 8139295735 **FEDGL0386**0004367, 0004369 **Yeshwantpur** 8041225684 **FEDGL0034**0004764, 0005921, **FEDBD0034**0000073

Change in Venue or Date, if any will be displayed on our Website www.fedfina.com. All bidders participating will be intimated subsequently with respect to acceptance or rejection of bids submitted by them. Customer who want to release their ornaments shall visit at the base branch wherein the ornaments were pledged by the customer or contact at the number mentioned above on/or before 07-05-2024 subject to the terms and condition applicable.

Auction will be conducted at respective branches, in case the auction does not get completed on the given date due to any reasons, the auction in respect thereto shall be conducted on subsequent working days at district level branch after displaying the details on our Website. No further communication shall be issued in this regard.

Dated : 27-04-2024 **For, sd/- Authorised Signatory**
Place : Karnataka **Fedbank Financial Services Ltd.,**

ICICI Bank

Branch Office: ICICI Bank limited, 1st Floor, West Wing, DSMG, Mythri Centre, Hosur Main Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore-560068

PUBLIC NOTICE - TENDER CUM E- AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET

[See proviso to rule 8(6)]
Notice for sale of immovable assets

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the **physical possession** of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Limited. will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is", as per the brief particulars given hereunder;

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price / Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of E-Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	Mr. Syed Aathif (Borrower) Mrs. Shabreen Banu M (Co-Borrower) Loan Account Number LBBNG00005484665	All that piece and parcel of residential apartment bearing No. B-318, in Third Floor, of the apartment building known as "SUMADHURA'S MATHRUSHREE RESIDENCY", at Thindlu village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore - 560097, having a super built up area of 1570 Sq. ft., vitrified tile flooring comprising three (03) Bedrooms, three (03) Toilets, Living, Dining, Kitchen Utility and Two (02) Balconies together with One (01) covered Car Parking space and together with 629 Sq. ft. of corresponding undivided share of land in the Schedule A Property and common facilities/amenities, and bounded by: East by: Fencing of Sumadhura Mathrushree Residency. West by: Common area and Apartment No.317 North by: Open area/Common Area and Apartment no.320 South by: Common area and Apartment No.316 (Super built up area includes the propionate share in the common area such as passages, lobbies, lifts, staircase, clubhouse and enjoyment of all the facilities of the Club and other areas of common use.) Total dues of Rs. 74,771/- as on 31-03-2024is payable to the Mathrushree Residents Owners Welfare Association.	Rs. 89,35, 288.07/- (as on April 19, 2024)	Rs. 72,20, 000/- / Rs. 7,22, 000/-	May 02, 2024 from 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM	May 24, 2024 from 01:00 PM to 02:00 PM
2.	Mr. Sandeep Kumar B (Borrower) Mrs. R Roshini (Co-Borrower) Loan Account Number LBBNG00005133206	A Residential Flat Bearing No.ff-101 In The First Floor, Old Bbmp Katha No. 244/128/124/1/124/3, New Bbmp Katha No.244/128/124/1/124/3-ff. 101, Super Built Up Area Of 1022 Square Feet, In The Apartment Known As "padmavathi Pendents", Construed On The Schedule 'a' Property, And Having 273 Square Feet Of Undivided Share, Right, Title And Interest In The Schedule 'a' Property, Consisting One Living Room, One Dining Hall, Two Bed Rooms, One Kitchen, Bathrooms And Toilets, With R.c.c Roof, Vitrified Floorings, Doors And Windows Made Of Jungle Wood, With All Civic Amenities Like Water, Sanitary, Electricity, With Lift And Common Power Backup Generator Facilities, Along With Right To Use Car Parking At Stilt Floor And Other Amenities In The Schedule 'a' Property Situated At Jaraganahalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Now Comes Within The Limits Of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Jaraganahalli Ward No. 186, Bangalore. Bounded On The: East By: Private Property, West By: Corridor And Flat No.102, North By: Road, South By: Private Property	Rs. 59,82, 119.55/- (as on April 24, 2024)	Rs. 29,08, 000/- / Rs. 2,91, 000/-	May 15, 2024 from 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM	May 24, 2024 from 01:30 PM to 02:30 PM
3.	Mr. Balisetty Viswanath (Borrower) Mrs. Guminani Hemasree (Co-Borrower) Loan Account Number LBBNG00005303407	All That Piece And Parcel Of Schedule Property Bearing Site No.72, Property No.106, Situated At Munnekolalu, Ayyappa Layout, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Previously Bangalore South Taluk, Comes Under Bbmp Limits, Bangalore. Measuring East To West: 26.6 Feet, North To South: 28.5 Feet, Total Measuring 755 Sq. Feet and Bounded On The East By: Site No.71, West By: Private Property, North By:26 Feet Road, South By: Private Property of Bearing Property No.106.	Rs. 56,14, 766.19/- (as on April 22, 2024)	Rs. 46,82, 000/- / Rs. 4,70, 000/-	May 15, 2024 from 02:30 PM to 05:00 PM	May 24, 2024 from 02:00 PM to 03:00 PM

The online auction will take place on the website of e-auction agency **M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited (URL Link-www.disposalhub.com).** The Mortgagors/ noticee are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till **May 23, 2024,** before **04:00 PM** failing which, this/these secured asset/s will be sold as per schedule.

The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at **ICICI Bank limited, 1st Floor, West Wing, DSMG, Mythri Centre, Hosur Main Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore-560068** on or before **May 23, 2024** before **03:00 PM** and thereafter they need to submit their offer through the above mentioned website only on or before **May 23, 2024** before **04:00 PM** along with scan image of Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD. Kindly note, in case prospective bidder(s) are unable to submit their offer through the website then signed copy of tender documents may be submitted at **ICICI Bank limited, 1st Floor, West Wing, DSMG, Mythri Centre, Hosur Main Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore-560068** on or before **May 23, 2024** before **04:00 PM.** Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalised/ Scheduled Bank in favour of **"ICICI Bank Limited"** payable at **Bangalore.**

For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the e-auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact **ICICI Bank Limited** on **9844542086/8008999536/7304918084.**

Please note that Marketing agencies 1. M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited have also been engaged for facilitating the sale of this property.

The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit **www.icicibank.com/n4p4s**

Date: April 26, 2024 **Authorised Officer**
Place: Bangalore **ICICI Bank Limited**

HDFC BANK LIMITED

HDFC BANK

Regd Office: HDFC Bank House, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai - 400013
Branch Office: HDFC Bank Ltd, HDFC House, No.51, Kasturba Road, Bengaluru-560 001
Tel:-080-41183000, CIN L65920MH1994PLC080618 Website: www.hdfcbank.com

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas the Authorised Officer of HDFC Bank Limited (erstwhile HDFC Limited having amalgamated with **HDFC Bank Limited** by virtue of a Scheme of Amalgamation approved by Hon'ble NCLT-Mumbai vide order dated 17th March 2023) (HDFC), under the Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 ("said Act") and in exercise of powers conferred under Section13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices under Section 13 (2) of the said Act, calling upon the following borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) and Legal Representative(s) to pay the amounts mentioned against their respective names together with interest thereon at the applicable rates as mentioned in the said notices, within 60 days from the date of the said Notice/s, incidental expenses, costs, charges etc till the date of payment and / or realization.

Name of Borrower (s) / Legal Heir(s) and Legal Representative(s)	Outstanding Dues	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession	Description of The Property
Mr. Mustafa Gulam (Borrower), Mrs. Mustafa Suriya (Co-Borrower-1) and M/S. Infinite Builders and Developers (Co-Borrower 2)	**Loan Account No (1) 631350263:Rs.9,17,86,402/- (2) 634509656 : Rs.6,71,541/- Total Amount Rs.9,24,57,943/- (Rupees Nine Crore Twenty Four Lakhs Fifty Seven Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty Three Only) as on 04.01.2023**	**05.01.2023**	**25.04.2024 (Symbolic)**	All that piece and parcel of the property bearing **No.44/1, PID No.81-6-44/1,** Azeem Pearl, Dickenson Road, Civil Station, Bengaluru, and construction there on present and future along with thereunder and various Furniture, Fixtures, Fittings, Equipments and other common amenities and facilities provided therein measuring **20269 Sq.ft of built up area** in the site totally measuring **4930 Sq.Ft** and bounded as follows: **North by :** Property No.44, Dickenson Road, **South by :** Property No.44/2, Dickenson Road, **East by :** Property No.46, Ulsoor Road and **West by:** Dickenson Road.

*with further interest as applicable, incidental expenses, costs, charges etc incurred till the date of payment and / or realization.

However, since the borrower/s mentioned hereinabove have failed to repay the amounts due, notice is hereby given to the borrower/s mentioned hereinabove in particular and to the public in general that the Authorised Officer/s of HDFC have taken **symbolic possession** of the immovable property (ies) / secured asset(s) described herein above in exercise of powers conferred on him/them under Section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on the dates mentioned above.

The borrower(s) mentioned hereinabove in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the aforesaid Immovable Property(ies) / Secured Asset(s) and any dealings with the said Immovable Property (ies) / Secured Asset(s) will be subject to the mortgage of HDFC.

Borrower(s) attention is/are invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset/s.

Copies of the Panchanama drawn and Inventory made are available with the undersigned, and the said Borrower requested to collect the respective copy from the undersigned on any working day during normal office hours.

Date: 27.04.2024 **Sd/-Authorised Officer**
Place: Bangalore **HDFC Bank Ltd. under SARFAESI Act, 2002**

Nethra secures India's 2nd Olympics quota in sailing

Nethra Kumanan secured India's second Olympics quota in sailing, claiming it under the Emerging Nations Program (ENP) banner at the Last Chance Regatta in France. Nethra, who has competed in the Tokyo Games, featured in the women's dinghy (ILCA 6) & managed 67 net points to finish 5th. She, however, won the quota as the top performer among sailors from the ENP.

Over interference concerns, UWW says athletes may be suspended too

FIROZ MIRZA @Chennai

THE long pending dispute between the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) and the sports ministry has been casting serious doubt on Indian wrestlers' participation in the upcoming World Olympic Games Qualifier in Istanbul, Turkey from May 9 to 12. Expressing grave concerns over interference of the ministry in the WFI's affairs, the United World Wrestling (UWW) threatened that it would re-impose a temporary ban on the federation and this time even the athletes would be suspended. The letter written to the national sports federation said the suspension would apply to the final Olympic Games Qualifying Tournament in May.

"We have been informed that the Wrestling Federation of India is once again threatened by your Ministry of Sports with the imposition of an ad-hoc committee to oversee its affairs," read the letter addressed to the WFI president Sanjay Kumar Singh. Adding further the letter said, "Besides our lassitude for this additional affair impacting your federation and its members, we would like to reiterate UWW's determination to uphold the principle of autonomy and independence of its national federations in accordance with the UWW Statutes and the Olympic Charter."

Going a step further, the world body said that even athletes will come under suspension this time which could affect their participation in the last Olympic qualifier. "In case any decision or order should be made against your federation, and a third party be designated to run the daily affairs of our sport in India in violation of the UWW Statutes, UWW would have no other option than to re-impose a temporary suspension of your federation until further notice, and which, this time, could maybe include your athletes. This suspension would apply to the final Olympic Games Qualifying Tournament in May, and will certainly attract the attention of the IOC on this matter, who may also consider further action," said the letter.

Earlier in August last year, the UWW had placed the WFI under provisional suspension with immediate effect after the Indian body failed to hold an election in due course. The suspension was lifted on February 13 this year. While lifting the suspension, the UWW asked the WFI to reconvene the elections of its Athletes' Commission. The WFI has also been directed to immediately provide UWW with written guarantees that all wrestlers will be considered for participation without any discrimination in all WFI events. This non-discrimination includes the three athletes who protested against alleged wrongdoings by the former president. Incidentally, the first mandated condition was fulfilled on Wednesday.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Selection commission of India

Most of the players pick themselves for the T20 WC, questions remain on backup options & pacers

GOMESH S @Chennai

THE dates are closing in. There is just about five weeks left for the upcoming 2024 ICC Men's T20 World Cup. The turfing of the outfield at Nassau County International Stadium is complete. The venue will play host to three of the four India games in the initial stages of the tournament, including the opener against Ireland on June 5. With teams expected to name their squads by May 1, who will be in India's squad? How many players will pick themselves? What are the open slots? Let's break it down one by one.

For starters, despite the number of youngsters who are lighting up the ongoing Indian Premier League (IPL), the questions about India's squad aren't that many. The top-order, especially the top four, pick themselves with skipper Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and Suryakumar Yadav walking into their spots. If there is any question, it is whether Yashasvi Jaiswal will start as an opener.

The youngster finally broke the string of bad scores with a century against Mumbai Indians. With match-ups on offer considering Jaiswal is a southpaw, it should not come as a surprise if Jaiswal starts. Not to mention, the backing he has from the captain — Rohit was the first to embrace Jaiswal with a big smile after the match earlier this week. As for Kohli, despite the concerns of slow-down in middle-overs, he will still be in the team. The No. 3 could very well be a vital cog in the XI, considering the slower nature of surfaces in the Caribbean (if India do qualify).

Rahul Dravid, head coach of India, with captain Rohit Sharma

If there is a problem of plenty or a selection headache, it is in the middle-order. Rishabh Pant has put his name front and centre with his performances as the first-choice keeper. If he walks in at No. 5, then comes Hardik Pandya, who's form at the moment remains a concern. That being said, India do not have a like-for-like replacement for Pandya — a pace bowling all-rounder. The only alternative option, albeit not in all three departments, is Shivam Dube. The Mumbaikar has become a prominent spin-hitter but he is not bowling as much and has been used by Chennai Super Kings as an impact player.

While both Pant and Pandya walk in at No. 5 and 6, there are other players as well. Rinku Singh, for example, has pushed himself to be the finisher, but his one-dimensional skill could keep him out of the first XI. However, the UP batter should find a place in the 15-member squad. As for backup keeper, Jitesh Sharma has not helped himself with his performances while Sanju Samson and Rahul have. Samson has been consistent, but Rahul might still edge him out as he gives the flexibility of being the back-up opener and keeper. The problem, however, is that both of them bat in the top-order and this is where Dinesh Karthik has thrown his hat in the ring. Whether he will make the cut or not is not clear, but Karthik has expressed his intentions to play and is backing it up with high impact knocks as a finisher.

PROBABLE PLAYERS IN CONTENTION

Rohit Sharma, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav, Rishabh Pant, Hardik Pandya, Ravindra Jadeja, Kuldeep Yadav, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Siraj, Arshdeep Singh, KL Rahul, Sanju Samson, Ravi Bishnoi, Axar Patel, Shivam Dube, Rinku Singh, Avesh Khan.

As far as the bowling department is concerned, Jasprit Bumrah and Kuldeep Yadav walk into the XI while Ravindra Jadeja might be the safe pick for them at No. 7 despite his poor strike rate in the position. The third spinner could be a toss up between Axar Patel and Ravi Bishnoi and the former's batting could prove to be the X-factor. The real concern lies in the pace department as barring Bumrah, others have not stepped up consistently in the IPL. The obvious choices would be Arshdeep Singh and Mohammed Siraj and the reserve pick might depend on the form in the IPL. When the dust settles and the final squad comes out over the next few days, it might not look that different from the 2022 T20 WC squad, especially in the batting department (exception being Jaiswal). Whether that is a good thing or not, only time will tell.

SUPER SATURDAY

Delhi Capitals and Mumbai Indians, two teams in the lower half of the table, know a win will put them back in contention. Meanwhile, Lucknow Super Giants take on Rajasthan Royals in the evening. A look...

Bumrah vs Fraser-McGurk

Jasprit Bumrah has been unhittable across all phases. The impish Australian batter has set the pulses in the powerplay where Bumrah usually bowls one over. Fireworks could in store irrespective of who wins this battle.

MI's middle-order vs Kuldeep/Axar

Kuldeep Yadav and Axar Patel have been the best combination in the league, in terms of wickets (19). Teams have also found them hard to hit (both their E/Rs are below 8).

Today's games

MI vs DC, 3.30 PM, Delhi

LSG vs RR, 7.30 PM, Lucknow

Live on Star Sports and Jio Cinema

Will struggling Ashwin be among the wickets

R Ashwin has picked a solitary wicket across seven matches while striking at 162. Just not good enough and he himself will know that. Considering Yuzvendra Chahal has picked up 13 wickets while striking at 13.8, if Ashwin can find his mojo, Royals will be even better.

Kings rule on record Knight

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

ON a night where batters made mockery of the boundary ropes and T20 chases, Punjab Kings came out smiling in the City of Joy as they beat Kolkata Knight Riders by eight wickets at the Eden Gardens.

When KKR posted 261/6 in 20 overs, they would have thought they have a better chance, but 18.4 overs later, Kings registered the highest chase ever in the shortest format. The cherry on the top was the 42 sixes hit in the match, the most in any T20.

With the record chase (262) at the Eden Gardens at stake, Punjab came all guns blazing as impact player Prabhsimran Singh smashed an 18-ball fifty, that too inside the powerplay. His opening partner Jonny Bairstow hit 24 runs in the final over of the powerplay by Anukul Roy to take Punjab to 93 after six overs.

Punjab lost Singh, but nothing could stop Bairstow who went on to hit a 45-ball century and kept Punjab in the chase.

PBKS celebrate after victory | PTI

From thereon, Shashank Singh (68 n.o off 28 balls) and Bairstow (108 n.o off 48) took the team home in the penultimate over.

Earlier, Punjab won the toss and opted to bowl first. Punjab captain Sam Curran started well and offered only seven runs from his first over, but the opening duo for Kolkata Knight Riders, Sunil Narine, and Phil Salt recovered well to make it to 76 off the powerplay. The introduction of spin via Rahul Chahar slowed down the duo, but they took 22 runs in Kasigo Rabada's next over to make up for it. The opening juggernaut continued as Kolkata reached 137 at the halfway mark with Narine completing a half-century off 23 balls and Salt joining him, with his own half-ton off 25 balls.

In the 11th over Chahar broke the partnership with the wicket of Naine. Salt smashed two back-to-back sixes off Curran, but lost his wicket. Andre Russell flexed his muscles as Kolkata posted 261/6. **Brief scores:** KKR 261/6 in 20 ovs (Salt 75, Narine 71) lost to PBKS 262/2 in 18.4 ovs (Bairstow 108 n.o, Shashank 68 n.o, Prabhsimran 54).

MOST SIXES IN A T20

42 - KKR v PBKS, 2024
38 - SRH v MI, 2024
38 - RCB v SRH, 2024

Highest successful chase in T20s

Team	Target	Final score	Opp
PBKS	262	262/2	KKR
SA	259	259/4	WI
MIDDX	253	254/3	SURR
AUS	244	245/5	NZ

City beat Brighton to stay in pursuit of title

AGENCIES @Brighton

MANCHESTER City chalked up another big win in their pursuit of an unprecedented fourth straight Premier League title, with Phil Foden continuing his career-best scoring season with two goals in a 4-0 thrashing of Brighton on Thursday. Foden's first-half double came between goals by Kevin De Bruyne and Julian Alvarez as City extended their unbeaten run in the league to 18 games and trimmed the gap to leader Arsenal to one point. Liverpool is two points further back in third after their 2-0 loss at Everton.

City has five games remaining — one more than Arsenal and Liverpool — and, on current form, is showing no sign of slipping up in the final stretch that still contains trips to Nottingham Forest, Fulham and Tottenham as well as home matches against Wolverhampton and West Ham. Win all five of those games and City is the champion again. No team has ever won four successive top-flight titles in the history of English football.

Villa aim to book top 4 place

With Tottenham facing a tricky task against Arsenal, Aston Villa have a golden opportunity to cement their grip on fourth place when they host Chelsea. Villa are six points clear of fifth placed Tottenham, who have two games in hand in the battle to qualify for next season's Champions League.

Rifle shooter Sift chasing her dreams, one victory at a time

ANMOL GURUNG @Chennai

WHEN it comes to competition, the sport of shooting in India is as cutthroat as it can be. Ask the bunch who are currently part of the Olympic Selection Trial (OST). The margins are fine with the cream of sport vying for the all-important Olympic quotas. With the stakes as high as ever, the pressure is bound to be immense.

All 37 rifle and pistol shooters, who are part of the trials, have mostly abandoned their daily comforts to come this far. It's a very relatable narrative where families from regular households aspire to reach for the stars.

Sift Kaur Samra is one of them. Having put aside her MBBS aspirations, the sport is a massive gamble that Sift and her family have opted for.

One of the gifted shooters contending for an Olympic quota in the women's 50m rifle 3 positions, Sift's rise was an organic one. With her habit of winning medals and putting up some notable scores, Sift has demonstrated in the last year or so that she has the potential to challenge for a medal in the quadrennial event.

And she has lived up to her billing in the OST so far. On Friday, she finished on top for the second time within three days (OST 1 and OST 2 trials finals) and now is in a position of strength ahead of the remaining two trials, which is scheduled to be held in Bhopal from May 10 to 19. Sift's father Pawandeep Singh, who was at the Dr Karni Singh Shooting Range in New Delhi, during the trials is satisfied with the outcome.

Sift Kaur Samra finished on top for the second time on Friday | NRAI

But he knows the job is far from complete. "It's still not over. She has done well so far but anything can happen in the remaining two trials in Bhopal," Pawandeep noted. "We have seen some high scores as well. So, let's see how it goes."

His assessment is spot on as fortunes can change in no time. Moreover, there are two more shooters who have a fair chance alongside Sift to make a case for Olympic quotas (two quotas available). Ashi Chouksey, who shot an impressive 590 in the qualification stage of T1, and Anjum Moudgil are also within range.

This is a fairly new territory for Sift, who hails from Punjab. Ashi Chouksey comes from the famed MP State Shooting Academy while Anjum Moudgil has years of experience and is an Olympian.

What drives the Sift family is the fact that they have invested everything in the shooter (not that it any less for other shooters). Having made the difficult choice of sacrificing sport for studies, that has handed them the natural boost to go that extra mile (look for extra details to navigate the visible disadvantages). Pawandeep is just looking to ensure that he's there beside her, be the ideal support cast and keep her away from all the disturbances.

"This (shooting) is huge for us. As you know, she chose this over her studies. And the sport is not huge here in Punjab. If this doesn't work, then I'll never encourage anyone to take up the sport," Pawandeep, who's into business in Faridkot, said.

"I just try to be there as this sport is really competitive. All her coaches have been really supportive and she is someone who tends to get along with everyone well. That also helps," he added.

Come May, Sift will be hoping to add to her belief during the remaining two trials in Bhopal and get one step close to her Olympic aspirations.

CHAMP SPEAKS

'Decision to reward athletes with prize money wonderful'

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN @Chennai

AT the 2024 Games in Paris, Valerie Adams will watch the Olympics from a different vantage point. After going to each of the last five editions as a competitor, she will be a spectator. She could have easily qualified as an athlete but she had made a conscious decision to 'retire on my terms'. In an interview with this daily, the Kiwi, who's in Bengaluru in her capacity as ambassador for the TCS World 10K on Sunday, speaks about why it was important to do that. Adams, current chair of the WA's Athletes' Commission, was also intimate about Neeraj Chopra's challenge of a repeat, the body's decision to give monetary rewards for all gold medallists and more. Excerpts:

Shot-putter Valerie Adams, two-time Olympic champ, at an event in Bengaluru

On the challenges of an elite athlete

I have been to five Olympics and each of them has its own unique stories and journeys. It's not a very easy feat. Some people think getting to one Olympics is fantastic and two would be amazing but to do five is exceptional. Each journey has been a challenge whether it's injuries, children, hardships with respect to relationships... I'm very lucky that my resilience and my drive and determination got me through. Paris will be weird but I'm looking forward to being a spectator (she won gold in 2008 and 2012 before picking up a silver in 2016 before finishing with a bronze in 2021).

On when did it hit you that you won't be competing

When I retired in (2022), I did it on my terms. It was the perfect time for me; I had won a bronze in Tokyo, had two children and had set up my brand. The hardest thing to do for an athlete can sometimes be not preparing for retirement or not knowing what they are doing, post. I was very lucky that I had a vision. Acknowledging and making the announcement was hard, not going to lie.

On WA's decision of monetary rewards for gold medallists at the Olympics

I think it's wonderful, a step in the right direction. I know there's a lot of debate around it. Each federation has got to do what they can for their athletes. WA is leading the way and hopefully others can follow.

On Neeraj Chopra

I have competed in some Championships with him. I know there's a lot of pressure on him. This question has been asked of me multiple times about what it takes to defend your title. I think he knows what he needs to do and the team he needs around him.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

EXPRESS READ

Asian U-20 Athletics: India win 15 medals

DUBAI: Middle distance runner Laxita Vinod Sandilea and low hurdler Shreeya Rajesh won silver and bronze medals, respectively, on the penultimate day of the Asian U-20 Athletics Championships on Friday. India's overall medal tally thus swelled to 15, including 5 gold, 6 silver and 5 bronze. Shreeya won bronze in the women's 400m hurdles with a time of 59.20 seconds. Laxita bagged silver in the women's 800m.

Deepika ousts Korean rival to make WC semis

SHANGHAI: Continuing her spirited progress post motherhood, Deepika Kumari eliminated Korean Jeon Hunyoung to storm into the semifinal, while compound archers continued to shine to assure India a fourth medal in the World Cup Stage 1 on Friday. Deepika, who has slipped to world No. 142 and qualified as 30th seed in the ranking round, overcame a 1-3 deficit to beat Jeon 6-4 in the recurve individual quarterfinal.

Madrid Open: Alcaraz, Sabalenka win openers

MADRID: Two-time defending champion Carlos Alcaraz showed no sign of being hampered by a nagging arm injury as he eased to victory in his opening match at the Madrid Open on Friday. Alcaraz brushed aside Alexander Shevchenko 6-2, 6-1 on the outdoor clay inside the Caja Magica in his first match in nearly a month. Defending champion Aryna Sabalenka faced tougher resistance in her opening match before beating Magda Linette 6-3, 4-6, 6-3.

UNEVEN INITIATIVES BY VARIOUS STATES MAKING POWER SECTOR DECARBONISATION DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE. WHILE A FEW STATES LIKE KARNATAKA AND GUJARAT ARE ON THE RIGHT TRACK, OTHERS LIKE JHARKHAND, BIHAR, BENGAL AND UTTAR PRADESH HAVE A LOT OF CATCHING-UP TO DO, SAYS REPORT

INDIA'S CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITION GOALS IN LIMBO

SV KRISHNA CHAITANYA @Chennai

WHILE hosting the G20 Presidency for the first time, India championed a climate change-focused agenda and pushed the group of countries to agree to tripling global renewable energy capacity by 2030. India reiterated these commitments at COP28 in Dubai, where it also agreed to double energy efficiency by 2030.

Yet, emissions are rising. Although India was the fastest-growing G20 economy, clocking a 6.7% growth rate of gross domestic product (GDP) in 2023, its carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions also grew at a rapid pace of 7% to reach 2.8 gigatonnes (Gt). Electricity generation remains the country's largest emitter by far, contributing nearly half of India's annual CO_2 emissions, with 1.18Gt in 2023.

Transitioning to clean sources of generation can help meet both India's developmental and climate goals. According to the International Energy Agency, 60% of India's electricity emissions increase in 2023 was because of cyclical weather-related events such as harsh summers and weak monsoons. This year, too, a harsh summer is likely to push India's peak power demand to a record high of 260 gigawatts (GW). But a harsh summer also means more opportunity for increased use of solar power.

However, not all states are moving at a pace good enough to achieve desirable goals. A report titled "Indian States' Electricity Transition: 2024" was released by the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA) and Ember that looks into the performance of 21 states that collectively contributed to about 95% of India's annual power demand in the past seven financial years.

The states were assessed based on three key parameters — decarbonisation, readiness and performance — of the power ecosystem and market enablers. The analysis shows the progress of states in the electricity transition is far more uneven. Some states have developed progressive steps, such as boosting decentralised renewable energy deployment, promoting solar pumps for agricultural needs, and enhancing storage solutions to ensure more renewable energy in their electricity systems.

Haryana, for instance, plans to skyrocket its solar energy capacity by 22 times, installing 6,000 megawatts (MW) by 2030. States such as Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh are the only ones with notified green hydrogen policies. Gujarat was set to unveil its green hydrogen policy last year, but it is still in the draft stage. The Karnataka Energy Department has launched the state's ambitious plan to transition millions of irrigation pumps to solar energy to save substantial amounts as subsidy every year.

But, several other states, such as Jharkhand, West Bengal, Bihar and Odisha, need to do much more. Tamil Nadu is a curious case. Tamil Nadu exhibits a significant contribution to renewable energy generation within the state, accounting for 9% of the total capacity addition by the 21 states over the past four years. However, Tamil Nadu has one of the lowest share of renewable energy consumption in the country. Only 16% of Tamil Nadu's total consumption is from renewable energy sources. This was primarily due to the bad performance of its DISCOMs and lower than expected distributed solar uptake (2%). The report said the state should focus on strengthening the penetration of rooftop solar and solar pumps along with utility-scale projects. The state DISCOM registered a loss of ₹91.92 billion (US$1.1 billion) for FY2023, ₹600 million (US$ 7.2 million) more than the previous year, despite a tariff hike.

Despite having an existing renewable energy policy applicable with a solar target of 9,000 MW by 2023, non-adoption of green open access rules impacted the state's score. Tamil Nadu demonstrates progress in developing the EV ecosystem through right policy signals, including fiscal and non-fiscal incentives, subsidies for charging infrastructure and innovative EV tariff and battery-swapping policies. But, it just has one charging station per 321 EV registrations as of January, 2024.

Overall, Karnataka and Gujarat emerged as top performers as they effectively integrated renewable energy into their power sectors, have adequate preparedness to further the electricity transition, and have robust market enablers to facilitate the future growth of clean electricity. "Cyclical weather conditions coupled with faster economic activity is pushing India's peak electricity demand higher every year. While the central government is taking steps to integrate more renewable energy into the grid, states, too, need to be prepared to do so. Gauging subnational progress now requires constant monitoring of several parameters at the state level. A purely national overview can often overshadow subtle intricacies at the state level, which may stymie the country's electricity transition," says the report's contributing author, Vibhuti Garg, Director – South Asia, IEEFA.

Aditya Lolla, Asia Programme Director, Ember, who is also the report's contributing author, said some states have developed progressive steps, such as boosting decentralised renewable energy deployment, promoting solar pumps for agricultural needs, and enhancing storage solutions. But, the transition to clean electricity is still in its infancy in many states. "These states should look to accelerate the efforts to access the benefits of a transition to clean electricity and to ensure that they are not left too far behind the better-performing states."

One of the striking findings from the analysis was that several states are exhibiting preparedness to embrace electricity transition. They perform well in the Readiness and Performance of the Power Ecosystem and Market Enablers dimensions but need to improve in the Decarbonisation dimension.

"Delhi's power system is well-prepared for decarbonisation, while Odisha has a robust market of enablers to support decarbonisation... However, their actual decarbonisation progress so far does not match their strengths," says co-author Neshwin Rodrigues, Electricity Policy Analyst, Ember. The report also notes that state-level decarbonisation can be further accelerated by strengthening the power ecosystem and having the right enablers. Some states that are decarbonising well also lack the right market enablers, others struggle with the readiness of their power ecosystems. "Kerala, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab and Maharashtra all exhibited considerable progress in certain aspects but also lower performance in other aspects. For example, Kerala and Punjab need to improve when it comes to market enablers for decarbonisation, while Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra need to focus on the readiness of their power ecosystems," says co-author Tanya Rana, Energy Analyst, IEEFA.

FORMAT C-2

(For Political Party to Publish in Website, Newspapers, TV)

Declaration about Criminal antecedents of candidates set up by the party

(As per the judgment dated 25th September, 2018, of Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP (Civil) No.536 of 2011 (Public Interest Foundation & Ors. Vs. Union of India & Anr.)

Name of Political Party : **INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS PARTY**

* Name of Election : **GENERAL ELECTION TO THE HOUSE OF PEOPLE – 2024 (LOKSABHA)**

Name of State/~~UT~~ : **KARNATAKA**

1	2	3	4		5	
Sl. No.	Name of candidate	Name of constituency	Pending criminal cases		Details about cases of conviction for criminal offences	
			Name of Court, case No. & status of the case(s)	Sections of the Acts concerned & brief description of offence(s)	Name of Court & date(s) of order(s)	Description of offence(s) & punishment imposed
1	RADHAKRISHNA DODDAMANI	05-GULBARGA PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY, KARNATAKA	Addl. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Court, Bangalore CC No.9564/2019 FIR No. 28O/2014 CCB Police Bangalore	U/s 42O,468,47L r/w 34 of IPC Allegation of cheating, forgery for purpose of cheating, using as genuine, a forged (Documents). Acts done by several persons in furtherance of common intention.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
2	HANAMANTHARAO ALGUR	04-VIJAYAPUR (SC) PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY, KARNATAKA	3rd Additional Senior Civil Judge and JMFC Court Vijayapura FIR No. Cr No. 90/2022, Dated 24-12-2022, Jalanagar Police Station, Vijayapura and Case No. Karnataka Police Act, 1963 Section 143, 147, 323, 354, 504, 506, 109, R/W 149 IPC	Karnataka Police Act, 1963 Section 143, 147, 323, 354, 504, 506, 109, R/W 149 IPC Involved in Son-in-laws family dispute 'B' False final report dated 15-06-2023 has been submitted by Police Station to the Hon'ble Court.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
3	G.G. ANANDSWAMY GADDADEVARAMATH	10-HAVERI PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY, KARNATAKA	Principal Civil Judge, (Sr Dn) & CJM Court, Haveri Case No. FIR NO: 54/2024 Haveri Town Police Station, Haveri.	Sec, 177,192 of MVA 199, Sec 171F, 171H, 171C of IPC 1860 Sec, 123(2) of Representation Act of People 1950, 1951, 1989 Alleged that, on 20-03-2024 arranged bike rally and supplied party flags to the party workers, without taking prior permission from the Election Commission.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
4	VINOD ASOOTI	11-DHARWAD PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY, KARNATAKA	Addl. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Court, Bangalore, and Charge Sheeted and transferred from M & JMFC Court, Navalgund C.C.No.16471/2023, 1354-42 Navalgund Police Station, 945+VF4, Navalgund, Dharwad District-582208	Section 171(H) R/w of IPC 34 Violation of Model Code of Conduct. Conducted Party Rally and deviated the conditions stipulated in the permission granted	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
5	RAJASHEKHAR KUYYAPPANAVAR	08-KOPPAL PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY, KARNATAKA	PCR 424/2022 CC 3891/2022 (PRL JMFC Koppal, now it is transferred to Prl. District & Session Judge, Koppal and it is bearing No. Spl C.4/2024) PCR 425/2022 CC 3305/2022	Under Sec.4(1) (1-A) 22 R/w CRPC and Rule 3 (1) 42(1) Mines and Minerals Development & Regulation Act of MMRD & Sec.21(1) and Sec.21(2) and 44(1), 44(2) and 44(3) of MMRD Act	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

* General Election to the House of People – 2024 (Loksabha), Second Phase.

Note: (i) The above information shall be published state wise for each State/UT.
(ii) The matter in newspapers should be published in font size of at least 12.

KARNATAKA PRADESH CONGRESS COMMITTEE * No. 14, Queens Road, Bangalore - 560 052.

(D.K. SHIVAKUMAR)
President, Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee, Bangalore

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27•04•2024
SATURDAY

A star-studded 'cast'ing PG2

Emmaculate Anyango Achol, the world's second fastest woman in the 10K distance with a personal best of 28:57, and one of the star attractions at this Sunday's TCS 10K Bengaluru, shares her expectations from the race and advice for amateur runners

LIFE ON THE FAST TRACK

DESE GOWDA

WITH just 24 hours to go before central Bengaluru decks up to celebrate the annual 'festival of running' – the TCS World 10K Bengaluru – **Emmaculate Anyango Achol**, the rising Kenyan star athlete, is looking forward to the race with a mixture of excitement and a sense of nonchalance. Fresh off a stunning performance in the Valencia 10K earlier this year, where she finished with a personal best of 28:57 to become the world's second fastest woman over 10K distance, Achol is now in Bengaluru, stepping onto new ground with the TCS 10k Bengaluru.

"This is my first time in India, so I'm not sure what to expect. For now, I haven't set any specific goals or pace. I'm mainly focused on just running because most of my preparation wasn't ideal, but my management encouraged me to come anyway. Although I wasn't fully prepared, I will try my best," the 24-year-old shares, before reflecting on her 'surprise performance' in Valencia.

She adds, "I was in Valencia, and I didn't expect what happened. We were set to run, and then we found out that Agnes [Ngetich] was aiming for a world record. I was told, 'Just go with it, you might also break the record'. I thought, if he's aiming to run under 29 minutes or so, I should at least be close to that. We weren't really expecting it, but we were pushing ourselves. The organisers had arranged a pacemaker for me, but he wasn't keeping up the pace I needed, so I decided to follow Agnes' pacemaker instead. About halfway through, at the 5k mark, the crowd started cheering that we were on track to break the record. That was exciting! I thought, 'Let's keep pushing'. So we pushed all the way to the finish. And then, I saw the time. I was amazed; I couldn't believe it!"

For amateur runners taking part in Sunday's run, Achol offers advice that's in line with her own approach: "You can't rush things; everything should be taken step by step. It's important to be patient and to have trust in what you're doing. If you trust and enjoy what you're doing, you will likely find success and feel satisfied. And if you believe in yourself, you're going to be okay," she shares, adding, "As for me, I easily find comfort in familiar things. For instance, I love eating ugali (a corn-based porridge) because it makes me feel strong. Now, being in India for the first time, everything is new and the food is spicy. It's a bit overwhelming!"

ಇಂಡಿಯನ್ ಹಾತ್ ಫೆಸ್ಟಿವಲ್
LAST 3 DAYS
Indian Haat Festival
Arts, Crafts, Handloom and Lifestyle Exhibition
19th - 29th April 2024
11 AM - 7 PM
Entry Free!
11 Days Exhibition
Contact: 6364685716 / 9036658774
Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath
Kumara Krupa Road, Bengaluru
11 DAYS EXHIBITION
100+ STALLS
LIVE PERFORMANCE
FREE ENTRY
Int. Japanese Culture With Hibiki and Indian Folk Band
Date : 27th April 2024
Timings: 5.30 PM- 7 PM
The Magic Show, Juggling show & Ventriloquism
Date : 28th April 2024
Timings: 5.30 PM- 7 PM
HANDLOOMS | HOME DECOR | HANDICRAFTS | CLOTHING | JEWELLERY

XPRESS FOCUS PMD INITIATIVE

SGM Group: A Legacy of Achievement

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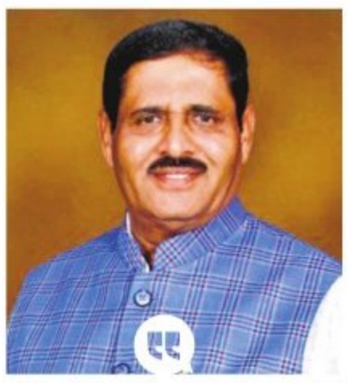


Education stands as the quintessential instrument for shaping the destiny of a nation. I have dedicated my life's work to the noble pursuit of imparting high-caliber education at accessible rates to underprivileged students. Reflecting on my journey, a sense of pride wells within me as I witness my former pupils spanning a myriad of vocations, from academia to vocational pursuits, ardently contributing to our homeland with the same fervour that ignited my career. Their achievements serve as a potent source of motivation, fueling my enduring dedication.

- R. Hanumantharayappa, Chairman, SGM Group of Institutions

SGM Group of Institutions commenced its journey as a modest establishment with an initial cohort of 60 students in the year 1989. Guided by the conviction that education is a sacred vocation, the institution has diligently prepared students for ICSE and State Board examinations for over 15 academic cycles, consistently achieving exemplary outcomes each year.

ADMISSIONS OPEN FOR THE YEAR 2024-25

What distinguishes SGM?

SGM espouses the belief that each child harbours unique potential, endeavouring to nurture and unleash it beyond the confines of familial expectations, peer influence, or self-perception. The Group renders education accessible, enjoyable, and intellectually stimulating for students from diverse socio-economic backgrounds, all of whom aspire to achieve greatness.

Through a blend of academic rigour and co-curricular engagements, SGM offers an enriching educational experience. Its committed and competent faculty, whose ardor for teaching knows no bounds, has been instrumental in securing commendable academic outcomes since 1983.

The Group's calendar brims with extracurricular activities and festivals, fostering a vibrant and celebratory ethos year-round.

SGM comprises Five educational entities:

- SGM Aa Bb Cc Kids: Nursery Education
- SGM Public School: Affiliated with ICSE (1 to 10th Std.) Affln. No. KA198
- SGM English School: State Board-English Medium (1 to 10th Std.)
- SGM PU & Degree College (Commerce, Science, BCA, BBA, B. Com)
- Sri Giri Maruthi Makkala Mandira: Kannada Medium Aided (1 to 10th Std.)

SGM Public School

SGM Public School, affiliated with the ICSE Board, New Delhi (affiliation code KA198), is known for its outstanding educational standards. With a proven track record of over 10 SSLC exam batches, achieving 100 percent first-class results annually, it embraces the National Education Policy (NEP) syllabus, prioritising student-centered learning. Despite its commitment to quality education, the school maintains affordable fees without compromising standards.

Facilities @ SGM

- Digital Classrooms.
- Qualified Teachers
- Well-equipped Lab
- Playground
- Van Facility
- Computer Lab
- Library
- Abacus Training
- Yoga
- Spoken English & Life skill Classes
- Art & Craft Training.
- Karate (optional)

Login to SGM Group's website to know more: https://sgmgroup.org/ OR call 7338345096/08025905944

The Auden School Experience

IGNITING LIFELONG LEARNING

N. R. HARI KUMAR

It's not just about giving students all the answers. A superior teacher will help each child in their class-room cultivate a lifelong desire to learn and build the skills to find their own answers out in the world.

A Glimpse into the Prestigious Legacy of Auden School

Nestled amidst the serene landscape, Auden School stands as a beacon of academic brilliance and holistic development. With a rich legacy spanning decades, this renowned institution has consistently upheld the highest standards of education, shaping the minds of future leaders, innovators, and changemakers.

Let's delve into the ethos, achievements, and offerings that define the essence of Auden School.

Established in the year 1981, Auden School has been synonymous with excellence from its inception. Our commitment to academic rigor, coupled with a focus on character development, has garnered accolades and recognition on both national and international platforms. Our faculty comprises distinguished educators and subject matter experts who impart knowledge with passion and dedication.

Through innovative teaching methodologies and state-of-the-art facilities, students are empowered to explore diverse disciplines and excel in their academic pursuits.

Beyond academics, Auden School places equal emphasis on holistic development, fostering a nurturing environment where students thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. A myriad of co-curricular activities, including sports, arts, music, and community service initiatives provide students with opportunities to discover their passions, hone their talents, and cultivate leadership skills.

Driven by a spirit of innovation and forward-thinking, Auden School continuously pioneers initiatives to enrich the learning experience and stay abreast of emerging trends in education. From STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education to interdisciplinary research projects, we strive to empower students with the skills and knowledge needed to thrive in an ever-evolving landscape.

The hallmark of Auden School's legacy is reflected in the achievements of its alumni, who have made indelible marks in various fields across the globe. From industry leaders to entrepreneurs and renowned artists, our alumni embody the values instilled during their formative years at Auden School and continue to inspire generations to come.

As we reflect on the illustrious journey of Auden School, it is evident that our commitment to excellence, innovation, and holistic development remains unwavering. Guided by a shared vision of nurturing the leaders of tomorrow, we look forward to continuing our legacy of excellence and shaping a future where knowledge, compassion, and integrity reign supreme.

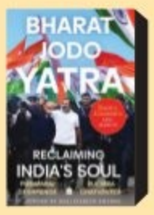
Join us at Auden School, where every student is empowered to dream, discover, and excel on the path to greatness.

AUDEN SCHOOL
AFFILIATED TO C.B.S.E., NEW DELHI (AFFILIATION No. 830806)

Admissions Open Class I-VIII (Limited Seats Available) Call 080-26723955 /9448574888 or visit #6, 7th Block, Banashankari, 3rd Stage, Hosakerehalli, Bengaluru - 560085

The author is Director of Auden Schools

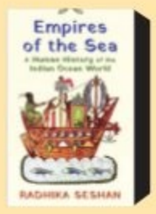
BOOK NOOK



Bharat Jodo Yatra: Reclaiming India's Soul

by Pushparaj Deshpande and Ruchira Chaturvedi

This is the definitive account of the Bharat Jodo Yatra, the epic 4,000-kilometre nationwide march from September 2022 to January 2023 under the stewardship of Rahul Gandhi.



Empires of the Sea

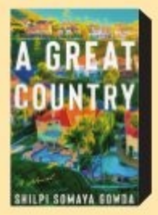
by Radhika Seshan

Combining scholarly rigour with a storyteller's flair, Empires of the Sea presents India afresh as a nation of pluralities made possible by virtue of its long-standing maritime relations with the world at large.

My Beloved Life

by Amitava Kumar

An exceptionally moving novel that traces the arc of a man's life from his birth in 1935 in a small village in India to his death from COVID-19 in 2020.



A Great Country

Shilpi Somaya Gowda

A Great Country explores themes of immigration, generational conflict, social class, and privilege as it reconsiders the myth of the model minority and questions the price of the American dream.

A STAR-STUDDED 'CAST'ING

On Election Day, notable Sandalwood celebrities such as Chaithra Achar; Ramesh Aravind accompanied by his wife Archana; Darshan Thoogudeepa; Shwetha Srivastav; Nidhi Subbaiah along with her family, were seen exercising their right to vote | VINOD KUMAR T

NOW STREAMING

REGIONAL

LAAPATAA LADIES (Hindi)

Two newlyweds find themselves inadvertently separated from their husbands moments after their respective weddings.

Cast: Pratibha Ranta, Nitanshi Goel, Sparsh Srivastav, Ravi Kishan

● **Watch on:** Netflix

ARTICLE 370 (Hindi)

A young field agent is picked from the Prime Minister's office for a top-secret mission to crack down on terrorism and corruption.

Cast: Yami Gautam, Priyamani, Rajendranath Zutshi

● **Watch on:** Netflix

FOREIGN

THANK YOU, GOODNIGHT - THE BON JOVI STORY (English)

Follows the history of Bon Jovi, featuring personal videos, photos, and music that provide a look at Jon Bon Jovi's life and the band's journey from New Jersey clubs to global fame.

Cast: Jon Bon Jovi, David Brayan, Tico Torres

● **Watch on:** Disney+ Hotstar

SUBSCRIPTION

Netflix:	₹199/month
Prime Video:	₹299/month
JioCinema:	₹999/year
Disney+ Hotstar:	₹899/year
Zee5:	₹699/year
VikiRakuten:	₹299/month
Aha:	₹699/year
SonyLIV:	₹299/month

RAAGAS THAT RESONATE

This weekend, a city-based NGO, which aims to promote and preserve Hindustani music, is hosting a musical evening

MONIKA MONALISA

THIS weekend, treat yourself to an evening of melodious classical Hindustani music. Sursagar, a city-based NGO founded in the early '80s that aims to promote and preserve Hindustani music, in association with Kolkata's ITC Sangeet Research Academy, is hosting a Hindustani musical programme on April 28.

Vocalists Laahorii Bandhopadhaya and Deborshee Bhattacharjee will be performing at the event. Bandhopadhaya, who belongs to the Gwalior Gharana of classical music, will be performing vilambit ektaal and drut ektaal among other taals.

"This will be my first performance in Bengaluru and I am looking forward to it. I have heard a lot about Bengalureans being admirers of all genres of music, especially classical music. It is always a treat to perform at a new place. Though it's a quick visit, I am hoping it's not the last one," says Bandhopadhaya, who also plays the tanpura.

This musical evening aims to introduce more Hindustani classical exponents to the audience. Shashank Sanade, honorary secretary of Sursagar, mentions the collaboration is to create more platforms for Hindustani musicians. "Creating a platform for new Hindustani singers might sound odd now. But when this organisation was established in the early '80s by a group of music lovers, it was purely for their love of Hindustani classical music in an era when this music was a rarity in the city. During that time, it was mostly Carnatic music that was prevalent. However, we have still tried to keep that tradition going," explains Sanade.

He also mentions it was a privilege for them to associate themselves with ITC Sangeet Research Academy. "It is one of the premier institutes for Hindustani classical music. Some renowned names like Ajoy Chakrabarty, late ustad Rashid Khan, and Mashkoor Ali Khan have been associated with this institution; filmmaker Satyajit Ray was also one of the trustees. I am sure it is going to be a good experience to listen to musicians from this institute," says Sanade.

(Hindustani Raag Sangeet will be performing on April 28, 5.30pm at Seva Sadan, Malleswaram. Entry free)

Deborshee Bhattacharjee

Laahorii Bandhopadhaya

QUICKFIX

CRISPY BAKED POTATOES

INGREDIENTS

- **Potato:** 3 to 5
- **Olive oil:** 4 tbsp
- **Salt as per taste**
- **Pepper as per taste**
- **Garlic powder (optional)**
- **Paprika (optional)**

METHOD

- Preheat the oven to 220°C.
- Wash and scrub the potatoes thoroughly. Cut them into wedges or cubes, based on your preference.
- Toss the potato pieces in olive oil until they are evenly coated. Season it with salt, pepper, and any optional spices like paprika or garlic powder.
- Lay the potatoes in a single layer on a baking sheet, lined with parchment paper or aluminium foil.
- Bake in the preheated oven for 30-40 minutes, flipping them halfway through, until the potatoes are golden brown and crispy on the outside and tender on the inside.
- Serve hot and enjoy your crispy baked potatoes!

Contributed by **Ayushi Nayak**, Bengaluru

EXPRESS CONNECT

HAVE A RECIPE OR ART WORK TO SHARE, OR A QUESTION TO ASK?

@XpressBengaluru/@tniefeatures

bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com

@xpress_bengaluru

WHATWHENWHYWHERE

'Swift'ly Speaking

Learn the basics of ukulele with iconic **Taylor Swift** songs at this ukulele workshop. **WHEN:** April 28, 12pm **WHERE:** My School of Rock, Adugodi **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

MUSICAL CONCERT

Catch Kerala's favourite band Thaikkudam Bridge and groove to their hits like *Fish Rock* and *Navarasam*. **WHEN:** April 27, 6pm **WHERE:** Garuda Outdoor Courtyard, Ashok Nagar **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

Divine Calligraphy

For art lovers in the city, experience **Nikheel Aphale**'s solo exhibition Nirakar Aakar by ARTISERA, showcasing his contemporary calligraphy artworks. Experience his interpretations of spirituality and society while exploring divinity and human relationships through the Devanagari script.

WHEN: April 27-28, 11am onwards **WHERE:** Bangalore International Centre, Domlur **DETAILS:** bangaloreinternationalcentre.org

Roars of Laughter

Get ready for an evening filled with witty humour and relatable jokes. Join standup comic **Ravi Gupta** as he performs his stand-up special - *Kal ki chinta nahi karta*.

WHEN: April 27, 3pm & 7pm **WHERE:** MLR Convention Centre, Whitefield **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

DJ Beats

This Saturday, immerse yourself in a musical night with the live performance of **DJ Spencer Brown** and experience the electrifying atmosphere he creates with his beats.

WHEN: April 27, 9pm **WHERE:** Sunburn Union, Koramangala **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

Wake & Bake

Get hands-on professional experience in baking with this bakery workshop guided by a professional pastry chef.

WHEN: April 27, 3pm **WHERE:** SmallWorld ST Bed, Koramangala **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

ARTCORNER

HELIX LIBERATION

Artist Varalakshmi B's work portrays the concept of a dormant DNA that awakens and gets liberated in a stable environment

NUGGETS

New menu celebrates IPL season

Nusa Brewvilla, a Bali-themed restaurant is offering a specially-curated IPL menu for cricket enthusiasts till May 26. From mozzarella fritters to cheese fondue, accompanied by bread sticks, the cheese sixers set the stage for IPL celebrations. For a heartier meal, the whisky-glazed Royal Challengers wings deliver flavourful satisfaction. Special cocktails like ee sala drink namde will also add to the culinary experience. For more details, call 99165 55499.

MTR celebrates its century-long legacy with food festival

Mavalli Tiffin Room (MTR) is organising Karunadu Swada, a food festival featuring over 100 authentic Karnataka dishes to celebrate their century-long culinary journey. The festival will be hosted on May 4 and 5, 12pm onwards at the Jayamahal Palace Convention Centre. Tickets available on bookmyshow.com and on ground.

GRUB HUB

Aslam Gafoor (@aslamgafoor) is a hospitality professional with experience in business development, sales and marketing with well-known hotels, and food and beverage companies. A few of his passions are travel, food and wine, and he enjoys sharing these experiences as a columnist.

THE QUIZ WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

Send answers to **bengalurucity express@gmail.com** with the subject line **'Food quiz'** The correct answers and names of the first three respondents with right answers will be featured in *CE* on Monday. The first-prize winner will receive a voucher for a one-month subscription worth ₹3,000 from Suay-Asian Cafe **

1. Which aromatic spice is commonly used to flavour traditional paella?
2. Which fruit is the primary ingredient in guacamole?
3. Which type of rice is commonly used in Italian risotto dishes?

CINE COM ADVERTISING

XPRESS FOCUS

SMD INITIATIVE

Indian Academy Degree College Hosts 11th Annual Scholarship Gala

Indian Academy Degree College - Autonomous, Bangalore, witnessed the grandeur of the 11th Annual Scholarship event recently, showcasing a harmonious blend of academic achievement and community generosity.

Distinguished guests and attendees gathered at the college to acknowledge exceptional academic performances and the benevolence of philanthropic donors. Dr. Chidananda Reddy S Patil, Research Director at the Karnataka Institute for Law and Parliamentary Reform (KILPAR) in Bengaluru, graced the occasion as the guest of honour. During his address to the audience, Dr. Patil emphasised the importance of personal growth for students and recommended impactful literary works to inspire and guide the youth towards realising their aspirations. He highlighted renowned books like "Wings of Fire" and "Last Lecture" by Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam and "Raghunathan's Management Strategies" by Dr. Raghunathan as sources of motivation and guidance.

Dr. T. Somasekhar, Ph.D., Chairman of the Indian Academy Education Trust, delivered a compelling presidential address, emphasising that scholarships serve as a significant motivational tool for students. He announced the institution's commitment to expanding scholarship opportunities beyond academics to sports, culture, and extra-curricular activities.

The event was marked by several notable moments, including the introduction of a diverse range of scholarships tailored to support deserving students in their educational pursuits. Each scholarship bore the name of its benefactor, symbolising the donors' personal dedication and commitment to nurturing academic talent. The scholarships encompassed a broad spectrum of fields and disciplines, catering to the varied academic interests and requirements of the student body. Generously contributed by individuals and organisations from diverse sectors, these scholarships reflected a collective endeavour to invest in education and empower deserving students.

Recipients of the scholarships expressed gratitude and joy for the recognition and encouragement received from the management, highlighting the positive impact of such initiatives on students' educational journeys.

Noteworthy scholarships such as the Smt. Tallam Subhadramma Merit Scholarship, Sri A. Sreenivasa Murthy Merit Scholarship, and Sri Krishna International Education Society Merit Scholarship were unveiled, addressing specific academic fields and interests. Donors including Tallam N. Nanjunda Setty, S. Shivaswamy, and Dr. M. Rukmangada Naidu, Chairman, demonstrated a shared commitment to supporting education and empowering students.

CLASSIFIEDS

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

PUBLIC NOTICE

CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **(OLD NAME) RAJI GWALANI** Residing at Flat # B1-304, Vaishnavi North 24, Ranna Road Hebbal Kempapura Bangalore -560024, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) RAJI GWALANI** to **(NEW NAME) ARCHANA NICHANI** vide affidavit dated 24.04.2024 sworn before Notary L.B.Anasuyamma Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SHREEVIDYA S BHAT,** W/o Sri Y R Sheshagiri Bhat, age 43 years, R/at No. 30/7, Shrinivasa Nilaya, 3rd Cross, K V Layout, Jayanagar 4th T Block, Bangalore-560 011 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **P. VIDYA** to **SHREEVIDYA S BHAT,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **SHREEVIDYA S BHAT** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 25-04-2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **D.G. SHANTHAPPA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **ISHA BISHT,** D/o. B S Bisht, permanently residing at #671/1, Street No.4, Rajendra Nagar, Opp. Park, Dehradun, Uttarakhand 248001, presently residing at Sri Ganga Ladies P.G, H, New Ananda Reddy Layout, 29, Annalah Reddy Road, Shanthipura, Phase-II, Electronic City, Bengaluru 560100, have changed my name to **ALAYA KHURANA**, vide Affidavit Dated: 25/04/2024, sworn before Notary **GANGARAJU.B.N,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Anshula Basu** D/o Sandip Kumar Basu, aged about 35 years residing at C-508, Golden Gate Block, Candeur Landmark, Gunjur Village, VTC: Gunjur, PO: Gunjur, District: Bengaluru, State: Karnataka, PIN Code: 560087, have changed my name from **Anshula Acharyya** to **Anshula Basu,** vide affidavit dated 25/4/2024 sworn to before Ravikumar.V advocate and notary Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **MEGHANA .L.R**, D/o. R. Lakkanna, Aged about 28 years, (Date of Birth 25.05.1996) residing at No. 2473, Sir M.V. Layout, 1st Block, K.S. Town, Kengeri, Bengaluru - 560 060, Karnataka, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **MEGHANA .L** to **MEGHANA .L.R** vide affidavit dated 24.04.2024 sworn to before Uday Kariyappa B.G., Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **ESBILLA RANI** W/o Gnana Prakasam (EX Nk1240728) R/at No.2174, 7th Main Road, 2nd Block, 1st Stage, HBR Layout, Bangalore- 560043 have changed my name to **ISABELLA RANI** vide affidavit dated: 24/04/2024 Before Notary **S.R.Nanjunda Swamy** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, MOHAMMED FAISAL, resident of No. 584, 2nd Cross, Maruthi Saw Mill Road, Ashwathnagar, Thanisandra Main Road, Bengaluru 560077, I have changed my son's name from ABDALLAH BIN MOHAMMED to ABDULLAH MOHAMMED vide Affidavit dated 16.05.2023 sworn before advocate and notary Meer Hassan, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **(OLD NAME) GOWRI MUTHUKRISHNAN** Residing at # 40, I-Cross, III Block, Dasappa Layout, Ramamurthynagar, Bengaluru-560016, Karnataka, India, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) GOWRI MUTHUKRISHNAN** to **(NEW NAME) GOWRI MANOHARAN** all purposes vide affidavit dated 25.04.2024 sworn before Notary Sivakumara M.N Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Y R SHESHAGIRI BHAT,** S/o Late Y K Raghurama Bhat, age 49 years, R/at No. 30/7, Shrinivasa Nilaya, 3rd Cross, K V Layout, Jayanagar 4th T Block, Bangalore-560 011 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SHESHAGIRI** to **Y R SHESHAGIRI BHAT,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **Y R SHESHAGIRI BHAT** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 25-04-2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **D.G. SHANTHAPPA** at Bangalore.

AFFIDAVIT

I, **C.P.PUSHPAVATHY** Spouse of C.K.Ponnappa, residing at No.207, Karthikeya, 4th B Main, OMBR Layout, Banaswadi, Bangalore, hereby confirm that in Pension Certificate my name was mentioned as **PUSHPA PONNAPPA** and in other records such as Aadhaar, Bank Pass Book etc., my name was mentioned as **Choundira Ponnappa Pushpavathy / C.P.Pushpavathy** and as per Affidavit dated 24.04.2024 (Vide E-Stamp Certificate No.IN-KA89273080824740W), I confirmed that **CHOUNDIRA PONNAPPA PUSHPAVATHY, C.P.PUSHPAVATHY and PUSHPA PONNAPPA** pertains to me and belongs to me only and sworn before VII Addl. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **CHITRA SINGH,** Aged about 41 years, W/o. Devendra Singh, R/at Flat No. 5093, Prestige Tranquility, Off Old Madras Road, Budigere Cross, Bommenahalli Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk - 560 049, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **CHITRA** to **CHITRA SINGH** vide affidavit dated 25.04.2024 sworn to before Dr. R.S. Vijay, Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru. Notarial Register Sl.No. 002, Page 096, Vol. 001.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Mangala Jadhav @ Mangala Pradeep Jadhav @ Mangala** D/o Pardeep, permanent resident of Hosakatti Village, Rattihalli Hobli and Taluk, Haveri District - 581 210, now residing at Vydehi Institution of Medical Science and Research Centre, Epip Area, Nallurhalli, Whitefield, Bengaluru - 560 067, have changed my Name to **Mangala Praveen Lingadahalli W/o Praveen** after my marriage, vide Affidavit dated 24.04.2024 before Smt. Jyshree, Notary, Hoskote and I further state that all the names i.e., **Mangala Jadhav, Mangala Pradeep Jadhava, Mangala and Mangala Praveen Lingadahalli** are belongs same person.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SRIVIDYA .C.K. D/o. Mohan Rao C.K., Aged 48 years, Residing at No. 506, 4th Floor, Maanya Mansion Apartments, Vaderahalli, Vidyaranya pura Post, Bengaluru - 560097. I have change my minor daughter's name from **STUTI KRISHNA BHARGAV To K. SANNIDHI RAO,** vide affidavit dated 23-04-2024, Sworn made before Advocate & Notary L. Gopalakrishna, Bangalore - 560027.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **MEHRUNNISA** R/at No.68 4th Cross Umar Nagar Nagavar Arabic College Post Bangalore-560045 have changed my name to **MEHARUNISA NAGINA** vide affidavit dated: 25/04/2024 Before Notary **S.R.Nanjunda Swamy** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Smt. SHUBHA. A** W/O Mr. **DEEPAK. K N** aged about 43 years, residing at No 93/B, 7th Cross, 3rd Main, Market Road, L N Puram , Bangaluru-560021. I state that my name is **SHUBHA. A** and in my son's Education documents my name is entered as SHUBHA DEEPAK. Here after in all further proceedings records & acts my name shall be as **SHUBHA. A** Hence this vide affidavit sworn on **25.04.2024.** Before advocate and Notary, **ONKARAPPA. N.R.** Bengaluru-560021.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **BHAVANI GOVINDRAJ** W/o Late K Chandra Kumar, aged 67 years, residing at No.1881, 7th Cross, 4th Main, HAL 3rd Stage, Bangalore North, New Thippasandra, Bengaluru-560075, Karnataka, have changed my name to **G BHAVANI KUMAR**, vide affidavit dt. 25/04/2024 before Notary **GANGARAJU B N**, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I. AMMU.M, D/o B.Murthy, aged about 26 years, R/at No.6 /7, 1st Main Road, Near Ambedkar Bhavan, V.S.Garden, JJR nagar, Chamarajpet, Bangalore - 560018. after my marriage I have changed my name from **"AMMU.M," to "KEERTHI. M. J."** by an affidavit sworn to before Notary **V. Rajashekhara, Dated:05-04-2024** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SANJANA SANDEEP,** W/o. Sandeep B H, Aged about 36 years, Residing at No. 405, Flat No. SF01, Himanshu Residency, 9th Main, MPM Layout, Nagarabhavi 2nd Stage, Bangalore - 560 056, **(Aadhaar No. 3013 5426 6478)** do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SANJANA SANDEEP** to **CHARVI.** Hence, I state that **SANJANA SANDEEP** and **CHARVI** are one and the same person and all the documents belong to **CHARVI** in future. vide affidavit dated 22.04.2024 sworn to before Devaraja E., Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

AFFIDAVIT

I, **Manikanth Khagadal** S/o Devappa, Aged about 22 years, r/at Shiraguppi, Dharwad, Karnataka - 580 023, today at Bangalore, do hereby declare that, my correct name is **MANIKANTH KHAGADAL** it is entered in my Aadhar Card and others records, but wrongly mentioned my name as **Mabujabtha Devappa Khagadal** in my PAN Card Dispensy date base letter. Vide affidavit dated 24.04.2024 sworn to before S. Vijayakumar, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **JUNAID AHMED** R/at No.7 and 12 Aswathnagar Near Bright School Thanisandra Kothanur Bangalore- 560077 have changed my name to **JUNAID AHMED JAHANGEER** vide affidavit dated: 25/04/2024 Before Notary **S.R.Nanjunda Swamy** Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Shree Prakash** Residing at No.203, Chamundi Emerald BTM 2nd Stage, NS Palya, Bangalore-560076 have Changed My Minor Daughter's name from **ADITRI** to **ADITRI SRIVASTAVA** Vide affidavit dated 25-04-2024 before Notary BH Rajendra, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **DIYA,** aged 19 years, D/o. Umashankar. N, residing at No. 142, 2nd Main, NGEF Layout, Mallathahalli, Bengaluru-560056. Hereby declare that, I have changed my name from **'DIYA UMASHANKAR'** to **"DIYA"** vide Affidavit dated 24.04.2024 Sworn before Advocate and Notary Aruna. V, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SHANKAR V,** aged 36 years, Venkateshapuram Main Road, Karimariamma Nagar, Arabic College, R/a No. 5/1, 1st Cross, Bangalore North, Benglauru-560045 have changed my daughter name from **AARADHANA .S.P** to **ARADHANA .S** vide affidavit dt.25/04/2024 before Notary **L. Gopalakrishna,** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, K. SRUJAN RAO S/o. Late Krishna G.S., Aged 18 years, Residing at No. 506, 4th Floor, Maanya Mansion Apartments, Vaderahalli, Vidyaranya pura Post, Bengaluru - 560097. Have change my name **from SRUJAN KRISHNA BHARGAV To K. SRUJAN RAO,** vide affidavit dated 23-04-2024, Sworn made before Advocate & Notary L. Gopalakrishna, Bangalore - 560027.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Shankar Shyam Sunder** S/o late S G Shankar residing at no.286, Aditya, 10th cross, 4th block D group employees layout, behind Veerabhadra swamy temple, Lingadeeranahalli andrahalli main road, Viswaneedam post, Bangalore - 560091 have changed my name **Shankar Shyam Sundar** vide affidavit dated: 25/4/2024 sworn before notary Onkarappa.N.R, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Narasamma .M.N.,** D/o. Late. Narasimhappa, W/o. Ramesha .M.V., aged about 38 years, residing at No. 10/36, Channamma Nilaya, 5th Cross, Near Telephone Exchange, Bhoopasandra, Bengaluru and also No. 255, 1st Floor, 4th Cross, Manjunath Layout, Nagashettyhalli, Sanjaynagar Post, Bengaluru-560 094, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **Narasamma .M.N.** to **Navya .M.N.** vide O.S. No. 4735/2023 by the Hon'ble V Additional City Civil Judge at Bengaluru (CCH-13) dated 15.03.2024.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Y.SHANTHA KUMAR** residing at #114/4, 7th Cross, Lingarajpuram, Bangalore North, Bengaluru- 560084 have changed my son's name from **THARUN SIMPSON** to **THARUN SIMPSON.S** vide affidavit dated 23-04-2024 before Notary M.Rajendra, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, MOHAMMED FAISAL, resident of No. 584, 2nd Cross, Maruthi Saw Mill Road, Ashwathnagar, Thanisandra Main Road, Bengaluru 560077, I have changed my daughter's name from UMM SULAYM MOHAMMED SHEIKH to SULAYM MOHAMMED vide Affidavit dated 16.05.2023 sworn before advocate and notary Meer Hassan, Bangalore

AFFIDAVIT

I, **MATHEW K.A,** age 51 years, S/o Mr. K. Joseph Augustine, R/at C-603, C Block, UKN Esperanza, Thubarahalli Extended Road, Thubarahalli, Bengaluru-560 066, Karnataka, India do hereby declare that in my daughter **"Maryann Mathew's** 10th Grade CBSE records, father name is mentioned as **MATHEW .K.A** and mother name is wrongly mentioned as **PREETHY JOSEPH** instead of her biological mother name **ANN MATHEW,** vide affidavit dated 20-04-2024, sworn before Addl. Judge, Court of Small Causes, Bangalore-560009.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **NEETHU NAVEEN,** D/o. Joseph K.T, residing at #523, 2nd Floor, Anand Nilaya, 1st Main, 3rd Cross, 5th Stage, BEML Layout, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bengaluru560098, have changed my name to **NEETHU K JOHNSON**, vide Affidavit Dated: 25/04/2024, sworn before Notary **L.GOPALAKRISHNA,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **MUNNARASAPPA MUNIYAPPA,** S/o.Muniyappa, aged about 64 years, R/at.No.58, 6th Cross, Valagerahalli, Kengeri Upanagar, Bengaluru-560060, have changed my name from **MUNNARASAPPA** to **MUNNARASAPPA MUNIYAPPA,** vide affidavit dated 25/4/2024 sworn to before G.Hemalatha advocate and notary Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Jayamma .H,** W/o. Mohan Kumar .T, Aged about 37 years, residing at No. 31/36, Sapthagiri Nilaya, 1st Cross, Ashraya Layout, Bharath Nagar 2nd Stage, Magadi Main Road, Bangalore - 560 091, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **JAYAMMA .H** to **JAYA .H** vide affidavit dated 24.04.2024 sworn to before K.V. Bachi Reddy, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, ASHWINI VASANT WAGHAMODE, R/at : No. 5, 1st floor, 102 House, 1st Cross, Muni Reddy Layout, Garvebhavipalya, Bommanahalli, Bangalore-560068 have changed my name from **ASHWINI VASANT WAGHAMODE to ASHWINI WAGHMODE** vide affidavit dated 24-04-2024 sworn before Notary Public CHANCHALA LAKSHMI Bengaluru.

ANNOUNCEMENT

We **Ashokan.K** and **Bindu Mathy** residing at No.87, 5th Cross, Kadirappa Road, Pankaj Milk Dairy, Cox Town, Bangalore North, Bangalore, Karnataka 560005 hereby state that in our Daughter Ms. Ardhra's parents names are wrongly given as **ASOKAN.K instead of Ashokan.K and Bindhumathy instead of Bindu Mathy** vide affidavit dated 05-04-2024 before Notary Veena K, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **MUBARAK AHMED F (Mubarak Ahmed Farooq)** R/at No.26, 1st Floor, 1st Cross Income Tax Layout K G Halli Arabic College Post Bangalore-560045 have changed my name to **MUBARAK AHMED B F (MUBARAK AHMED BABU FAROOQ)** vide affidavit dated: 25/4/2024 Before Notary **S.R.Nanjunda Swamy** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Smt. SHUBHA. A** W/O Mr. **DEEPAK. K N** aged about 43 years, residing at No 93/B, 7th Cross, 3rd Main, Market Road, L N Puram , Bangaluru-560021. I state that my name is **SHUBHA. A** and in my son's Education documents my name is entered as SHUBHA DEEPAK. Here after in all further proceedings records & acts my name shall be as **SHUBHA. A** Hence this vide affidavit sworn on **25.04.2024.** Before advocate and Notary, **ONKARAPPA. N.R.** Bengaluru-560021.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **BHAVANI GOVINDRAJ** W/o Late K Chandra Kumar, aged 67 years, residing at No.1881, 7th Cross, 4th Main, HAL 3rd Stage, Bangalore North, New Thippasandra, Bengaluru-560075, Karnataka, have changed my name to **G BHAVANI KUMAR**, vide affidavit dt. 25/04/2024 before Notary **GANGARAJU B N**, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I. AMMU.M, D/o B.Murthy, aged about 26 years, R/at No.6 /7, 1st Main Road, Near Ambedkar Bhavan, V.S.Garden, JJR nagar, Chamarajpet, Bangalore - 560018. after my marriage I have changed my name from **"AMMU.M," to "KEERTHI. M. J."** by an affidavit sworn to before Notary **V. Rajashekhara, Dated:05-04-2024** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SANJANA SANDEEP,** W/o. Sandeep B H, Aged about 36 years, Residing at No. 405, Flat No. SF01, Himanshu Residency, 9th Main, MPM Layout, Nagarabhavi 2nd Stage, Bangalore - 560 056, **(Aadhaar No. 3013 5426 6478)** do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SANJANA SANDEEP** to **CHARVI.** Hence, I state that **SANJANA SANDEEP** and **CHARVI** are one and the same person and all the documents belong to **CHARVI** in future. vide affidavit dated 22.04.2024 sworn to before Devaraja E., Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Lopamudra Ray** W/o Prasant Kumar Sahoo, aged about 39 years, D/o Hiranya Kumar Ray, of Village Bhagabansundara, P.O. Kumarapada, P.S. Nimapara, Dist. Puri, permanently residing at No. 56/57, Flat No.1, First Floor, 13th A Cross Near Reliance Fresh, Dasarahalli Main Road, Bhubanesari Nagar, Bengaluru-560024, have changed my name from **Lopamudra Behera** to **Lopamudra Ray,** vide affidavit dated 22/4/2024 sworn to before B.Chitra advocate and notary Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **BEENA ZALA,** Aged about 52 years, D/o. No. 210, Soudhamini Apartments, 21st KM, Kanakapura Road, Udayapura, Bangalore - 560 082, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **BINABEN RATILAL ZALA** to **BEENA ZALA** vide affidavit dated 24.04.2024 sworn to before K.V. Mani, Advocate and Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **BABULAL DINESH KUMAR JAIN** S/o **Mohanlal Babulal Jain** R/at No.64, Shradha Sankalp Apartment, Flat No.101, Shraddhananda Bhavan Road, V.V.Puram, Bangalore- 560004, have changed my name to **DINESH KUMAR JAIN** vide affidavit dated: 15/4/2024 Before Notary **D.Srinivasa** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Y. EDWIN XAVIER** residing at No.5, Vinayaka Layout, 7th Cross, Lingarajpuram, Bangalore North, St. Thomas Town, Bengaluru-560084 have changed my son's name from **ASHWIN OSBORN** to **E. ASHWIN OSBORN** vide affidavit dated 23-04-2024 before Notary M.Rajendra, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **ARTI** No.4093956Y Rank NK Name **Harendra Singh** residing at Vill Bheti, PO-Bheti, Teh-Ghat, Distt- Chamoli, State-Uttarakhand, Pin-246435 have changed my name from **ARTI DEVI to ARTI,** and my date of birth is 06 Dec 1993 vide affidavit dated-25-04-2024 before Notary, Y.R.Chandrasekar, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SAI SUJAY,** C/o. **KRISHNA PRASAD BOLLINA,** R/at No.202, A BLOCK LOTUS PALACE, 6Th Avenue NEAR PRATHEEK HOMES, SARJAPURA ROAD, KASAVANAHALLI, BANGALORE SOUTH-560035, have changed my name to **SAI SUJAY BOLLINA** , vide affidavit dt:07.02.2024 before Notary **K.V. Mani,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SAMSUNNAHAR KHATUN**,w/o No.13627813X, Rank HAV, Name **NURJAMAN SK,** residing at Vill & PO- Gangadhari, Teh-Berhampore, Distt- Murshidabad, State- West Bengal, Pin-742121 have changed my name from **SAMSUNNAHAR BIBI to SAMSUNNAHAR KHATUN,** vide affidavit dated-24-04-2024 before Notary, Y.R.Chandrasekar, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SHAGUFTA SUHEL MEHDI** aged about 45 Years, D/o Noman Bhai Hamza R/at No. 104, Gold Coast, SJR Blue Waters, Silver County Road, Parappana Agrahara, Harlur, Bangalore- 560068 have changed my name to **SHAGUFTA HAMZA** vide affidavit dated: 24/4/2024 Before Notary **K.V.Mani** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **NOORULLA SHARIEFF** S/o Thahar Sharieff Holder Passport No.K2662309 R/at No.34, 3rd Main Road, Ayyappa Reddy Garden, Yeshwanthpur, Bengaluru-560022 have changed my name to **NOORULLA SHAREEF** vide affidavit dated: 26/4/2024 Before Notary **K.V. Mani** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Mrs. HEM LATA** W/o Mr. Amarjit Sharma, Residing at Flat No 1203, Block-3, Mahaveer Celesse, Sonappanahalli, Jala Hobli, Betthahalasur, Bengaluru - 562157. Do hereby solemnly affirm as per all my Aadhar Card, Pan Card and all my academic records my name is **HEM LATA** but in my Son **Manish Sharma's** Passport bearing No.Y1476109 my name is wrongly mentioned as **HEMLATA** in stead of **HEM LATA,** in his ICSE (10th) Marks Card my name is wrongly mentioned as **HEM LATA SHARMA** instead of **HEM LATA** . In his HSCE (12th) Marks Card issued by Maharastra State Board my name is wrongly mentioned as **HEMLATA** instead of **HEM LATA** and in his BE Degree Certificate my name is wrongly mentioned as **HEMLATA SHARMA** instead **HEM LATA.** Whereas **HEM LATA SHARMA** alias **HEMLATA SHARMA** alias **HEMLATA** all the names belongs to me only and henceforth my name should be considered as **HEM LATA,** in all my record and documents vide Affidavit dated 24-04-2024 before Advocate and Notary, **H. Sridhar Rao,** Bangalore.

ANNOUNCEMENT

I, Subrahmanya Manjunath Hegde son of **Manjunath Hegde,** aged 20 years, Resident of Hanajibail, Po: Kondli in Siddapur Taluk, Uttara Kannada District do hereby solemnly affirm and state as follows: - I am the son of **Smt. Yashoda Krishna Hegde,** R/o Hanajibail and she died on 07/02/2020. My correct name is **Subrahmanya Manjunath Hegde,** but in Nippon India Mutual Fund Folio Certificate, my name (nominee name) is wrongly mentioned as **Subrahmanya Krishna Hegde** instead of **Subrahmanya Manjunath Hegde.** For that rectification, I hereby declare that **Subrahmanya Manjunath Hegde** is my correct name. Hence, **Subrahmanya Manjunath Hegde** and **Subrahmanya Krishna Hegde** both the names belong to me only. I again swear that I herein after declare my name as Subrahmanya Manjunath Hegde in all transactions. The above contents are true to the best of my knowledge and belief. Vide affidavit dated 18/4/2023. Sworn before notary S.R. Hegde, Siddapur (U.K.).

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A still from the film

The director, who recently met the actor-producer in Mumbai, shared mutual admiration and hinted at a possible collaboration, which will be underlined once the script work is done

DIRECTOR KIRANRAJ ENGAGES IN DIALOGUE WITH JOHN ABRAHAM OVER *777 CHARLIE*

A SHARADHAA

The excitement surrounding the Rakshit Shetty starrer *777 Charlie* goes up to another level with its director Kiranraj k's recent meeting with Bollywood stalwart John Abraham. The actor-producer, who has openly expressed his fondness for the film, produced by Paramvah Studios, extended an invitation to Kiranraj to Mumbai recently, leading to a meeting filled with discussions about the film and beyond. Kiranraj, equally enamoured by this interaction, now contemplates a potential collaboration with the versatile actor and producer.

"My connection with John Abraham goes back to the time when we released the 777 Charlie trailer," recalls Kiranraj, reflecting on the genesis of their bond. "He voluntarily shared the trailer on his social media platform, endorsing it with high praise. Since then, our communication has remained constant."

John's humble response to *777 Charlie* struck a chord with Kiranraj, so much so, the director says, "Apparently, John watched *777 Charlie* again recently and said that he cried like a baby while watching the film. His admiration for the film sparked a desire to meet me, and when we met, he was keen to learn about my experience in making the film."

During their discussion, Kiranraj also uncovered John's deep affinity for animals. "John's love for animals, particularly dogs, caught my attention," Kiranraj admits. "His involvement with various NGOs for animal welfare further solidified the bond between him and the film," he says.

Interestingly, John expressed a keen interest in exploring potential collaborations with Kiranraj. With the director's multilingual project in the scripting stages, the possibility of partnering with a Bollywood heavyweight like John Abraham looms large. "Once I finalise the script, which is in the final stages and will take a month more, only then will I plan to be involved in the creative process," Kiranraj says.

Reflecting on John's dual role as an actor and producer, Kiranraj acknowledges his admiration for both facets of the artiste. "I admired his performance in *Madras Cafe*. However, his role as a producer, particularly in groundbreaking projects like *Vicky Donor*, showcases his discerning taste and vision," says the director.

Kiranraj is taking time to begin his next project, and it will be a genre-bending horror-fantasy-thriller with yet again a dog in a significant role. Speculation arises about the nature of his collaboration with John Abraham, but Kiranraj, who didn't wish to divulge many details about it, asks for more time for further updates.

Ravichandran

The Judgement wraps up shooting, aiming for May release

CE FEATURES

The makers of *The Judgement: See You in Court*, starring Crazy Star Ravichandran in a prominent role, wrapped up its production. Interestingly, they completed the last scene of the film on Dr. Rajkumar's birth anniversary. Produced under the banner of G9 Communication Media and Entertainment, the film's team spoke about it after its production got over.

While the producers, speaking to a certain section of the media, expressed their gratitude to the team, director Gururaj Kulkarni talked about *The Judgement*, saying, "Last year, we began the film on Dr. Rajkumar's birthday, and we concluded this year on the same day. Ravichandran's inclusion has been instrumental in completing the film smoothly, with the cooperation of all artists and technicians. We are making efforts to release the courtroom thriller in May."

Meghana Gaonkar, who is part of the principal cast, said, "I am delighted to have worked alongside Ravichandran. It's truly astonishing that the film's completion coincides with Dr Rajkumar's birthday this year."

The film also features Diganth, Dhanya Ramkumar, Lakshmi Gopalaswamy, Naga Bharana, Prakash Belawadi, Rangayana Raghu, Ravishankar Gowda, Sujay Shastry, Krishna Hebbale, Rekha Kudligi, and Navil in important roles. Anoop Seelin has provided music for The Judgment, with dialogues penned by MS Ramesh. The cinematography is handled by PKH Das and editing by Kemparaj.

Directed by Gururaj Kulkarni, the film stars Ravichandran alongside Diganth, Dhanya Ramkumar, Lakshmi Gopalaswamy, and Meghana Gaonkar in the principal cast

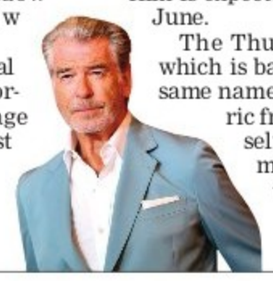
Team The Judgement

Pierce Brosnan to star in *A Spy's Guide to Survival*

ACTOR Pierce Brosnan, who is known for playing James Bond, is all set to turn as a spy in Simon Barry's upcoming film A Spy's Guide to Survival.

The debut director has helmed Netflix's hit series Warrior Nun. He will work on the screenplay based on a story co-conceived by his father Derek Barry. The film revolves around a retired spy who is forced to come out of the shadow world due to his new neighbour.

A Spy's Guide to Survival is backed by Reality Distortion Field alongside Passage Pictures. Brosnan was last seen in DC's Black Adam, The Last Rifleman, and Fast Charlie. In another development, Brosnan has been cast along with Ben Kingsley and Helen Mirren in The Thursday Murder Club, directed by Harry Potter-fame Chris Columbus. The film is expected to go on floors this June.



The Thursday Murder Club, which is based on a novel of the same name, is about four geriatric friends who find themselves entangled in a real murder case while trying to solve murders for fun at their retirement home.

Jonathan Bailey, Hayley Atwell and Eddie Marsan onboard *Heartstopper S3*

CE FEATURES

Netflix announced on Thursday that Jonathan Bailey, Hayley Atwell and Eddie Marsan have been added to the cast of the third season of *Heartstopper*. They join the previously announced Darragh Hand. The series is headlined by Kit Connor and Joe Locke as Nick Nelson and Charlie Spring, respectively.

Netflix also revealed that Atwell will essay Nick's aunt Diane who gives him some tough advice about his relationship with Charlie, on their Summer trip to Menorca. Geoff, Charlie's straightforward and wise therapist from the *Heartstopper* graphic novels, will be played by Marsan. Bailey will only be making a cameo appearance as the Instagram-popular classist, Jack Maddox, who is also Charlie's celebrity crush.

Heartstopper is an adaptation of Alice Oseman's webcomic and graphic novel of the same name. The series follows the story of Charlie and Nick, who meet at the school and eventually realise that their friendship has bloomed into an unexpected romance.

Recently, Netflix announced that the third season of the series will premiere in October. The official synopsis of the upcoming season reads, "Charlie would like to tell Nick that he loves him. Nick also has something important to say to Charlie. As the summer holiday ends and the months race on, the friends realise that the school year will come with its joys and challenges. As they learn more about each other and their relationships, plan social events and parties and start thinking about university choices, everyone must learn to lean on those they love when life doesn't go to plan".

The extended supporting cast of *Heartstopper* includes William Gao as Tao Xu, Yasmin Finney as Elle Argent, Corinna Brown as Tara Jones, Kizzy Edgell as Darcy Olsson, Jenny Walser as Tori, and Sebastian Croft as Benjamin.

The first season of Heartstopper was released on April 22, 2022, and the second on August 3, 2023.

AN UNDERWHELMING NOSTALGIA BAIT

ASWIN DEVAN

GHOSTBUSTERS: FROZEN EMPIRE
Director: Gil Kenan
Cast: Paul Rudd, Carrie Coon, Finn Wolfhard, Mckenna Grace, Kumail Nanjiani

It is often said that the primary objective of franchise films is to evoke nostalgia in the viewers. These films serve as a reminder of the time when we first met the characters, a time when we had fun and didn't have the adult perspective to over analyse the older filmmaking style. An ideal scenario in such cases, is a sequel that takes a new approach while still retaining the warmth of the original film, thereby providing you with a refreshing yet nostalgic experience. However, *Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire*, the latest addition to the Ghostbusters franchise, fails to deliver in terms of novelty, instead relying solely on nostalgia.

This fifth addition to the supernatural comedy franchise takes place three years after the events of Ghostbusters: Afterlife. The Spenglers, including Egon Spengler's daughter Callie Spengler (Carrie Coon), her boyfriend, Gary Grooberson(Paul Rudd), her children Trevor (Finn Wolfhard) and Phoebe(Mckenna Grace), and their close friends Lucky Domingo and Podcast, move to New York City to assist Winston Zeddemore (Ernie Hudson) and Ray Stantz (Dan Aykroyd) in reestablishing the paranormal investigation group known as Ghostbusters.

The most exciting factor about Ghostbusters are the wacky, thrilling supernatural adventures. However, Frozen Empire is mired down by indulgent dialogues and hardly has any entertaining action scenes. The writing is often repetitive and lacks originality, exposing the evident shortcomings. The attempts at humour and performances also fall short and are just relegated to referencing moments from the previous films. The humour might have worked on paper but due to the poor execution, the jokes don't land as well as they should have. The only line that gets a chuckle out of you is when Kumail Nanjiani's Nadeem Razmaadi wrings a joke out of a tense situation towards the end.

The biggest shortcoming of Frozen Empire is that it tries too hard to capture the audience's attention and in that pursuit, it meanders through a loosely packed screenplay. The film tries to do too much at once and fails at all of them. While the Ghostbusters are busy with a mission, we are treated to a subplot involving Phoebe, who meets a ghost named Melody and builds an intimate relationship with her. In another instance, when Trevor asks for help from his mother, she replies, "Aren't you an adult boy?", essentially pushing him to become more mature. While these subplots had interesting potential, the film never truly fleshes them out. All of these different plot threads are crammed together, causing the story to lose its focus and diluting the impact of the story. Towards the end of the final act, struggling to make sense of the many plot threads it opened, Frozen Empire falls flat and fails to establish the antagonist satisfactorily. Since we do not understand or connect with the motivations of the antagonist, the finale becomes forced.

RATING 2/5

Unfortunately, even with all the quirkiness, thrills, and adventures inherent in the franchise, Frozen Empire never truly leverages any of its strengths. It fails to capture the unique charm and appeal that made the original a classic. Nostalgia can be a powerful tool if combined with fresh ideas, but in this case, it's a missed opportunity. Just like the ghosts in the Ghostbusters' firehouse headquarters, Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire fades away and fails to leave a lasting impression.